



# **GENERAL REGULATIONS**

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# Article 1

## National Federations (NFs)

The NFs are established and affiliated according to Article 2.2 of the Constitution.

### 1.1 FIVB-NFS UNITY

- The NFs founded the FIVB as a worldwide organisation, pursuing common goals. The FIVB mission statement is unique and devoid of any discriminatory attitude, cultural prejudice and individual or group interests.
- In order to foster the image of such unity worldwide, the FIVB is obliged to prevent the development of attitudes or visions advocating regional attachments against the general interest of Volleyball.

### 1.2 INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONSHIP

- As decided by the NFs, the FIVB is not a sum of individual NFs, but the expression of a democratic relationship and understanding between the FIVB governing and supporting institutions.
- To preserve institutional relationships and understanding, the FIVB and its NFs have decided to reject any attitude, tendency or policy going against its democratic principles.

### 1.3 PROCEDURE OF AFFILIATION

- 1.3.1 Application form. An NF desiring to be affiliated submits a written application, signed by its President and Secretary and forwards it in triplicate to the FIVB Secretariat.
- 1.3.2 The application for affiliation must clearly state:
- a) the complete name in full and abbreviated, and the postal address of the applicant Federation together with the e-mail address, telephone, and fax numbers when available;
  - b) the commitment to comply with the FIVB Constitution, Regulations, rules and decisions;
  - c) the commitment to observe the Volleyball Rules of the Game adopted by the FIVB;
  - d) the commitment to include in its own Constitution the obligations set out in FIVB Constitution, these Regulations and those relating to players' eligibility;
  - e) the commitment to pay the annual fee and to comply with sanctions, according to the FIVB Constitution, Regulations, rules and decisions;
  - f) the commitment to defray the travel and living expenses of any of its delegates or members elected or appointed as officials of the FIVB; and
  - g) the number of clubs and players affiliated to the NF.

- 1.3.3 Every affiliated and applicant Federation shall include in its own Constitution, the following provisions:
- a) “the Federation is legally constituted and recognised by the official sports authorities of its country or territory as the sole entity competent to administer and govern Volleyball at the national level”; and
  - b) “by virtue of its legal powers, the Federation declares that the FIVB Constitution, Regulations, rules and decisions are considered as part of its own Constitution and they are to be compulsorily respected by the Federation, by all its members and by third parties involved in Volleyball matters except if otherwise authorised by the FIVB”.

The non-inclusion of the provisions mentioned above in the Constitution of an affiliated NF, does not preclude its binding nature. Any controversy arising from the non-inclusion of the provisions mentioned above may lead to sanctions being imposed on the concerned affiliated NF.

- 1.3.4 The application for affiliation shall be accompanied by:
- a) the text of the applicant Federation’s own Constitution;
  - b) a certificate from the National Olympic Committee (NOC) recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), or as the case may be, the National Sports Organisation which comprises the NFs governing the various sports disciplines, stating that the applicant Federation is recognised as the highest Volleyball authority in its country or territory;
  - c) the list of the Executive Committee members, the name and address of the person entrusted with official correspondence with the FIVB and other affiliated Federations; and
  - d) proof of payment of the first annual fee to the respective Confederation.

## 1.4 PROCEDURE OF RESIGNATION

- 1.4.1 Any affiliated NF may resign in accordance with its own Constitution.
- 1.4.2 Any such NF shall advise the Board of Administration of its proposed resignation by a registered letter received at the FIVB headquarters.
- 1.4.3 The resigning NF shall settle all its obligations, especially financial, towards the various FIVB institutions or other affiliated Federations prior to its resignation. Any outstanding claims owed by the resigning NF shall be subject to Article 2.7.5 of the FIVB Constitution.
- 1.4.4 The rights of the resigning Federation cease when the resignation becomes effective.

- 1.4.5 The resigning Federation shall have no claim on the assets of the FIVB, its officials, institutions and affiliated Federations.
- 1.4.6 The affiliation to another Volleyball organization not recognized by the FIVB may be considered a "de facto" resignation from any membership, position or capacity within the FIVB. The FIVB may set a final deadline for the person/entity to retract its action(s), failing which the Board of Administration (or the Congress, where applicable) may impose sanctions for an institutional offence in accordance with the Disciplinary Regulations.

## **1.5 COMMITMENTS OF AN NF**

- 1.5.1 The NFs affiliated to the FIVB, in the context of their activities, responsibilities and prerogatives in connection with the practice of Volleyball, are obliged at all times, and without restriction, to respect and apply the rules, decisions and sports practices established for the world sports structures recognised by the IOC, and in particular those fixed by the FIVB Constitution, Regulations, rules and decisions. An NF not complying with the FIVB Constitution shall lose all its rights and will be suspended.
- 1.5.2 Without affecting the general implication of Article 1.5.1 above, the NFs must apply "mutatis mutandis" all the provisions of the FIVB Constitution and Regulations when electing their officials.
- 1.5.3 Should the FIVB be of the opinion that the legal and administrative requirements of the FIVB have not been respected by an NF during an election or when taking or rendering a decision, the FIVB may not recognise such election or decision.
- 1.5.4 The NFs and their officials shall, at all times, be respected representatives of the Volleyball family and have a conduct which shall not be prejudicial to the image of the FIVB.
- 1.5.5 The FIVB affiliated NFs are obliged to participate in the FIVB World Congress. Subject to force majeure cases, those NFs that will not be present or represented at a World Congress will not receive any technical or financial support from the FIVB for the next two-year (2) period. They will regain FIVB support by attending the following Congress.
- 1.5.6 Each NF taking part in international competitions must have, in close cooperation with the national authorities concerned, an out-of-competition anti-doping testing programme in accordance with the World Anti-Doping Code published by WADA (World Anti-Doping Agency).

- 1.5.7 The FIVB and the NFs must implement the following principles:
- a) to concentrate efforts on highly competitive Volleyball for spectators;
  - b) to create, promote and sell top Volleyball events and strongly support countries and clubs or zonal associations which are working hard to reach a higher competitive level;
  - c) to measure the success of national and international Volleyball events in terms of spectators, sponsors, television broadcasting and news people attending; and
  - d) to measure organisational, administrative and management qualifications and capabilities only by results, and not in relation to political, personal or financial considerations.

1.5.8 The NFs are obliged to register with the FIVB any National League operating in the country. Such Leagues shall receive FIVB recognition under its regulations, including the transfer regulations. NFs must establish fair play and fair competition terms when regulating and promoting Volleyball competitions in their country in order to ensure that teams and players receive equal treatment.

- a) The receiving NFs are obliged to register in FIVB, through an FIVB International Transfer Certificate all foreign players participating in their National Leagues subject to the provisions of the FIVB Sports-, Financial- and Disciplinary Regulations.
- b) The NFs of origin must remit the FIVB International Transfer Certificate and ensure that the receiving NF submits it to the FIVB for the registration of their foreign players participating in their National Leagues and that it complies with the FIVB Regulations, and is duly completed.
- c) Subject to sanctions for a major offense by the FIVB in accordance with the FIVB Disciplinary Regulations, the receiving NFs shall be responsible for the respect of all technical conditions (e.g. period of transfer, release for national team etc.) established in the International Transfer Certificate and must ensure, under their responsibility, that the receiving club that engages a foreign player, complies with all the Terms and Conditions established in the FIVB International Transfer Certificate.

## **1.6 CHANGES OF EXECUTIVES IN NFS**

- 1.6.1 A NF should elect its President and Executive officers for at least a four-year (4) term of office.
- 1.6.2 In order to maintain its active status, an NF elective General Assembly must be chaired by its President or other authorized representative in

accordance with the NF's Constitution. The minutes of the elective General Assembly including the list of elected officials, together with the list of delegates and an official copy of the "call for elections" shall be submitted to the FIVB no later than thirty (30) days after said Assembly is held. The minutes must be co-signed by the outgoing and newly elected President. If the outgoing President has resigned, the letter of his/her resignation should be included in the minutes.

- 1.6.3 In case of doubt, the FIVB may request explanations or make enquiries before granting recognition. Should the outgoing President fail to sign the minutes, then evidence of the request made to him for his signature in due time and form must be included.
- 1.6.4 The current President or Executive Committee members of an NF may not be dismissed by an authority other than the NF itself. In the event that this occurs, the FIVB may refuse to recognise the new officials elected or appointed to the NF and may suspend the NF until the situation is resolved in a manner prescribed by the FIVB.

## **1.7 NF GOVERNANCE DISPUTE**

- 1.7.1 In the event of a governance dispute within an NF hindering Volleyball activities or its administration in the NF's country or territory in accordance with the FIVB Constitution, Regulations rules or decisions (e.g. government interference, electoral dispute, loss of sole competence to administer and govern Volleyball at the national level, etc.) the FIVB Board of Administration, or the Executive Committee under delegation from the Board of Administration, may establish any Ad Hoc Committees, Task Forces or Advisory Groups to assist with the resolution of the NF governance dispute. The FIVB may further assist with the administration and/or governance of the NF to ensure the continuation of Volleyball activities in accordance with the FIVB Constitution, Regulations, Official Rules and decisions for the duration of the governance dispute, respecting the general principle of autonomy of NFs.
- 1.7.2 The FIVB Board of Administration, or Executive Committee where relevant, shall determine said body's terms of reference taking into consideration the following:
- a) If possible, the composition of said entity should reflect the different non-governmental stakeholders involved in the dispute.
  - b) The Committees or Task Forces created under this provision may have the temporary competence to resolve any disputes related to the administration of the NF, e.g. entering teams into international competitions, determining team delegation compositions, international



transfers of players, etc., to ensure the continuation of Volleyball activities or its administration in the NF's country or territory in accordance with the FIVB Constitution, Regulations rules or decisions.

c) The resolution of the dispute must be conducted in accordance with the FIVB Constitution and Regulations as well as the NF's Constitution.

## Article 2

### FIVB Board of Administration (Board)

#### **2.1 MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION**

- 2.1.1 Except the President (who is elected in accordance with Article 2.3.6.1 of the FIVB Constitution), the members of the Board of Administration are elected or appointed for a four-year (4) term starting immediately after the closure of the Congress held during the year of the Summer Olympic Games. The members of the Board of Administration (excluding the President and Confederations Presidents) may only serve for a total of three (3) terms, whether consecutive or not.
- 2.1.2 Except for the Director in Charge of the FIVB Board of Administration, the employees of the FIVB Secretariat or of a Confederation cannot be members of the Board of Administration.
- 2.1.3 Board of Administration members, in addition to being eligible for the Executive Committee, may be members of one (1) of the Councils and/or one (1) of the Commissions.
- 2.1.4 The Presidents of Councils and Commissions may attend, by invitation, the Executive Committee or the Board of Administration meeting in a non-voting capacity and are allowed to speak whenever a subject within their competence is being discussed.
- 2.1.5 If a position of Board of Administration member becomes vacant, it may be filled in accordance with Article 2.3.6.2.3 of the FIVB Constitution.
- 2.1.6 Pursuant to Article 2.5.3.2 of the FIVB Constitution and Article 3.4.3 of these Regulations, the President is entitled to assign specific responsibilities to members of the Board of Administration. Such members will hold the title of Executive Board member, for as long as they exercise the responsibilities assigned to them. Article 1.6.7 of the Financial Regulations shall apply to the expenses (allowance, per diems, costs etc) to be paid by FIVB to the Executive Board members.

#### **2.2 MEMBERSHIP CONDITIONS**

- 2.2.1 Every affiliated NF in good standing as an FIVB member is entitled to present candidates of each gender to its Confederation for potential election to the membership of the FIVB Board of Administration.
- 2.2.2 In order to become a Board of Administration member, a candidate shall not be aged less than twenty (20) years old or more than sixty (60) years old in the case of first-time candidates.

- 2.2.3 A candidate for the Board of Administration, including candidates for the FIVB President and Confederation Presidents, must pass an integrity check defined in Article 2.4.1.1(b) of the FIVB Constitution in accordance with the FIVB Rules on the Integrity Check of Candidates (Appendix 1) and, if elected, must continue to satisfy the substantive provisions defined therein throughout his or her term of office.
- 2.2.4 The late arrival of a member for Board of Administration meetings, except for cases of force majeure, is considered as an absence.
- 2.2.5 FIVB Board of Administration, Executive Committee, Councils and Commission members not attending meetings in full are considered as absent (if not excused), even if they are absent for only half a day. After being considered twice as absent, the member may be excluded from the Board of Administration, Executive Committee, Council or Commission by the relevant body competent for the appointment or election of the member in question. In such case, he/she may continue to serve on other FIVB institutions if his/her attendance record to the latter allows it.

## **2.3 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION**

- 2.3.1 The Board of Administration's responsibilities are provided in the FIVB Constitution (see in particular Article 2.4.2 of the FIVB Constitution).
- 2.3.2 If consensus cannot be obtained, the decisions of the Board of Administration are taken by a vote. A three-quarters (3/4) majority is required for proposing amendments to the Constitution. Other decisions are taken by simple majority vote.
- 2.3.3 Notice of meeting, agenda, technical and administrative documents to be discussed by the Board of Administration are prepared by the Secretariat and sent to members as follows:
- a) notice of meeting at least two (2) months prior to the date of the meeting; and
  - b) agenda, technical and administrative documents at least one (1) week prior to the date of the meeting.
- 2.3.4 Upon request of the President, the Board of Administration may vote by correspondence also and/or hold electronic or hybrid meetings by video- or telephone conference.
- 2.3.5 The Board of Administration reviews any change related to rules (playing and scoring) of the game of Volleyball that have been previously discussed by the Rules of the Game and Refereeing

Commission and the Volleyball Council or respectively by the Beach Volleyball World Tour and World Championships Council. Such changes must be presented to the Congress for approval before entering into force. Any other change affecting the technical and/or sporting aspects of Volleyball will be decided by the Board of Administration and reported to the next Congress.

2.3.6 The responsibilities of the members of the Board of Administration shall be conducted in accordance with the FIVB Constitution and Regulations, including the Medical and Anti-Doping Regulations and Code of Ethics.

2.3.7 In case of occurrence of events or circumstances of exceptional nature which are outside of the FIVB's control (such as terrorism, riot, civil unrest, war (regardless of whether declared or not), strike, nuclear or chemical contamination, epidemic, etc.) (the "**Extraordinary Event**") resulting in the safe and/or regular conduct of FIVB's activities or sanctioned by FIVB, notably, but without limitation, the conduct of activities of FIVB's bodies/commissions and/or the organisation (including the preparations thereof) of and/or the participation to events and/or competitions hosted and/or sanctioned by the FIVB, being made impossible, objectively endangered, or, in the reasonable judgement of the FIVB Board of Administration, not reasonably possible or appropriate under adequate conditions given the circumstances, the FIVB Board of Administration may decide to impose exceptional protective measures aimed at preserving the safe, peaceful and regular conduct of the FIVB's activities defined in this article in accordance with the FIVB's objective to take all appropriate measures directly or indirectly related to the practice of Volleyball and in the best interest of the sport of Volleyball as defined in Article 1.4(g) of the FIVB Constitution.

Protective measures may include the temporary suspension of:

- a) the exercise of rights of members representing countries that caused or contributed to or are otherwise relevantly involved in the Extraordinary Event; and/or
- b) persons who are affiliated to the members referred in lit. a) above and/or citizens of the concerned countries, to the extent they are participating in the FIVB's activities defined in this article (including, without limitation, persons who are elected or appointed as members of the bodies/commissions of the federation, athletes, officials, support personnel).

The protective measures are issued irrespective of any violations by the Concerned Parties of their respective specific obligations under these statutes and/or FIVB's other rules.

Without limitation, the protective measures may include restrictions to or exclusion of the right granted to any third party to organise (including, for the avoidance of doubt, cancellation/removal of FIVB's activities defined in this article already scheduled) and/or restrictions to or exclusion of the right to participate thereto by the Concerned Parties.

Protective measures may be maintained by the FIVB Board of Administration (as issued or as amended from time to time) as long as required by the circumstances. They must be lifted, partially or totally, as soon as reasonably adequate in view of the evolution of the circumstances having led to the issuance of the measures.

## **2.4 FIVB CONTROLLER**

2.4.1 The Board of Administration appoints the FIVB Controller for a period of four (4) years and establishes his competence in the Constitution and the General Regulations.

2.4.2 The role of the Controller is to secure the strict respect of the accounting controls and of the legal, administrative and financial procedures as well as all financial operations authorized by the President and/or the Treasurer. The FIVB Controller must have access to all accounts in order to give a quarterly report to the FIVB President.

2.4.3 The Controller is assigned the following duties:

- Auditing in selective form the books and policies of payment and verifying their conformity with the decisions of the FIVB Executive Committee and with the principles established by the Board of Administration and the Congress within the scope of their respective competence;
- Maintaining a general control on the accounting practices of the FIVB and all the Confederations and ensuring that their accounting plan and financial strategy follow the corresponding regulations and accounting principles established by the competent institutions;
- Requesting and obtaining from the FIVB Directors and persons in charge of the finances in each Confederation, all the information considered necessary to verify that the operations and the accounts correspond to the programmes approved by the competent institutions;
- Validating the internal and external audits of the FIVB and the Confederations in accordance with the principles established by the FIVB Board of Administration; and
- Reporting his findings to the President and the Treasurer and obtaining, for all his reports, both their signatures in acknowledgement of such findings before making any recommendation to the corresponding departments for their

implementation and to the Board of Administration for its information and approval.

## Article 3

### FIVB Executive Committee and FIVB President

As provided for in the preamble of the Constitution, the term “Executive authority” used in these General Regulations shall apply to both the Executive Committee and the Presidency, except when otherwise stipulated.

#### **3.1 COMPOSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The composition of the Executive Committee is described in Article 2.5.1 of the Constitution.

#### **3.2 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS AS EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS**

FIVB Executive Committee members are, by their own right, ex-officio members of the Board / Executive Committee of their own Confederation.

#### **3.3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE’S RESPONSIBILITIES**

3.3.1 The members of the Executive Committee are charged with the responsibilities provided in the FIVB Constitution (see in particular Article 2.5.2 of the FIVB Constitution), either individually on account of their office or collectively,

3.3.2 Members of the Executive Committee are not allowed to be present during the consideration of matters in which they or their NF are concerned.

3.3.3 The Executive Committee fixes the dates and places of its meetings and those of the Councils and Commissions.

3.3.4 The responsibilities of the members of the Executive Committee shall be conducted in accordance with the FIVB Constitution and Regulations, including the Medical and Anti-Doping Regulations and Code of Ethics.

#### **3.4 FIVB PRESIDENT**

3.4.1 Pre-requisites/conditions for candidates to the position of the President

The FIVB shall verify that all candidates to the position of the FIVB President satisfy the requirements of the Constitution:

- a) the candidate is the outgoing President, or a member of the FIVB Board of Administration at the time that the candidatures for President are submitted to the FIVB;

- b) the candidate does not exceed the age limit defined in Article 2.1.4(a) of the FIVB Constitution;
- c) if the candidate is the outgoing President, that he/she has not reached the term limit defined in Article 2.3.6.1.1 of the FIVB Constitution;
- d) the candidate has successfully passed the applicable integrity check described in Article 2.4.1.1(c) of the FIVB Constitution;
- e) the candidate speaks one of the working languages of the FIVB in accordance with Article 1.6.3 of the FIVB Constitution; and
- f) the candidature was submitted within the applicable deadline.

All candidates satisfying the constitutional requirements may be submitted to the Congress with their Volleyball sports background, including;

- Years involved in Volleyball activities.
- Contributions made to the sport as organiser of International Volleyball Competitions.
- FIVB events in which he/she has been involved as Organiser, Control Committee member or in any other function.
- Professional experience in finance, marketing and legal affairs.
- Working languages fluently spoken by the candidate.

3.4.2 The competence and responsibilities of the FIVB President are established in Article 2.6.2 of the Constitution.

3.4.3 The President may assign to an Executive Committee and/or Board of Administration (see Article 2.1.6 above) member a specific assignment according to their capabilities and field of expertise. Specific assignments may concern among other:

- a) Communication, image of the FIVB, public relations;
- b) TV, marketing and sponsorship;
- c) Volleyball and Beach Volleyball competitions;
- d) finances;
- e) Volleyball Cooperation Programmes;
- f) development of the sport of Volleyball;
- g) World League and Grand Prix; and
- h) general affairs.

## 3.5 FIRST EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT

3.5.1 The First Executive Vice-President assists the President in the exercise of his duties and responsibilities. On the proposal of the President, the Executive Committee assigns to him certain specific functions.

3.5.2 In accordance with the provisions of Article 2.6.1.2 of the FIVB Constitution, the First Executive Vice-President shall replace the



President should the latter become unable to carry out his functions.

- 3.5.3 Jointly with the President, the First Executive Vice-President represents the FIVB in international sports organisations, including the IOC, and coordinates activities not entrusted to other Executive Vice-Presidents. He proposes to the President the official protocol for FIVB events, Congresses and meetings.

### **3.6 SECOND EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT**

- 3.6.1 The Second Executive Vice-President assists the President in the exercise of his duties and responsibilities. On the proposal of the President, the Executive Committee assigns to him certain specific functions.
- 3.6.2 In accordance with the provisions of Article 2.6.1.2 of the FIVB Constitution, the Second Executive Vice-President shall replace the First Executive Vice-President should the latter become unable to carry out his functions.

### **3.7 TREASURER/EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT**

- 3.7.1 Together with the President, the Treasurer is responsible for the preparation of the budgets and their strict respect.
- 3.7.2 The Treasurer will advise the President and the FIVB Accountant on the preparation of the monthly and yearly cash flow.
- 3.7.3 The Treasurer must assure the registration and accounting control of revenue as stipulated in all contracts and related documents and report immediately his findings and discrepancies to the FIVB President.
- 3.7.4 Jointly with the President, the Treasurer is entitled to propose to the FIVB Executive Committee the approval of the FIVB Directors salaries, consultants' fees and the payment of commissions, bonuses or rewards in strict compliance with the FIVB Constitution and Regulations.
- 3.7.5 The Executive Committee will secure the necessary financial means (indemnity) for the Treasurer to fulfil his functions without any restriction.

### **3.8 EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENTS AND EXECUTIVE MEMBERS**

In accordance with the President's assignments, as provided for in Article 2.5.3.2 of the Constitution, the Executive Vice-Presidents and Executive members shall assist the President in his/her duties by performing certain functions, including but not limited to:

- a) supervising the execution of regional programmes designed for the development of Volleyball;
- b) supervising the technical aspect of competitions, more specifically the World Championships and ensuring that the organisers fulfil the conditions laid down in various FIVB Regulations and decisions;
- c) coordinating the activities of the various Councils and Commissions, studying and proposing the necessary measures to facilitate them to carry out their functions in an efficient and timely manner;
- d) executing the technical programmes and providing assistance to the NFs, Zonal Associations and Confederations;
- e) approving the budgets and the economic forecast of the FIVB revenue and expenditures and controlling the finance reports and the account auditing ;
- f) undertaking the responsibility of development plans;
- g) executing the programmes aiming at the development of Beach Volleyball, underage international competitions and continental events; and
- h) providing assistance to the Volleyball Cooperation Programmes and Development Centres.

### **3.9 FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 3.9.1 Jointly with the President, the Treasurer shall check the budget and investment programme before they are submitted to the approval of the Finance Commission.
- 3.9.2 Jointly with the President, the Treasurer is responsible for the FIVB accounts.
- 3.9.3 The Treasurer, assisted by the FIVB Accountant and based on the balance sheet and profit and loss statement shall establish a report on income and expenditure and on the statement of accounts in order to submit them to the approval of the Finance Commission, the President, and the Board of Administration.
- 3.9.4 The Treasurer shall check the respect of financial procedures of payments made by the FIVB Accountant and report on them to the Executive Committee.

## Article 4

### Confederations

#### 4.1 LIST OF CONFEDERATIONS

- 4.1.1 After consultation with the concerned Confederations, the Board of Administration shall submit for approval by the Congress the list of countries or territories incorporated in the following Confederations:
- a. the Confédération Africaine de Volleyball (CAVB);
  - b. the Asian Volleyball Confederation (AVC);
  - c. the Confédération Européenne de Volleyball (CEV);
  - d. the North, Central American and Caribbean Volleyball Confederation (NORCECA); and
  - e. the Confederación Sudamericana de Voleibol (CSV).
- 4.1.2 The NFs are grouped in Confederations, on the basis of geographical proximity. Confederations must accept NFs affiliated with the FIVB as members and assigned to them by the FIVB Secretariat.

#### 4.2 STATUTES OF A CONFEDERATION

- 4.2.1 The Statutes, Regulations and decisions of the Confederations must be approved by the FIVB Board of Administration and follow the general principles and provisions of the FIVB Constitution.
- a) The Statutes of each Confederation shall include the following article:  
“[Please insert acronym of the Confederation], in the context of its activities, responsibilities and prerogatives in connection with the practice of Volleyball, is obliged at all times, and without restriction, to respect and apply the Rules, decisions and sports practices established for the world sports structures recognised by the IOC, and in particular those fixed by the FIVB, to coordinate the activities of Volleyball internationally.”
  - b) The Confederations’ legal personality can only apply to internal administrative affairs and cannot be opposable to FIVB authority and decisions.
  - c) The Statutes must also include Articles 2.10.1.4, 2.10.1.5, 2.10.2.3 and 2.10.4 of the FIVB Constitution.
  - d) The Statutes must also include Articles 4.2.1 (a, b), 4.3.1, 4.3.4, 4.6.3, 4.7.1, and 4.8.1 (b, c) and 4.9 of the FIVB General Regulations.
- 4.2.2 The Confederations are recommended to adopt the full text of the FIVB Constitution and Regulations as the texts of their own Statutes and Regulations.

4.2.3 The Confederations submit their Statutes and Regulations to the FIVB Board of Administration which consults the Legal Commission regarding their conformity with the FIVB Constitution and Regulations prior to approving them.

4.2.4 The FIVB must provide the Confederations with support and assistance, including basic financial support for their initial infrastructure, as per the conditions set forth in the FIVB Financial Regulations.

### **4.3 JURISDICTION**

4.3.1 Confederations are supporting institutions of the FIVB. As such, it is their responsibility and duty to implement the Constitution, Regulations, decisions and administrative actions of the FIVB.

4.3.2 The Confederations are empowered to impose, within their geographical area of competence, sanctions provided for in the FIVB Regulations and arising from their competitions and activities at continental level, including, but not limited to, the suspension of leagues, clubs, teams, players and officials.

4.3.3 The Confederations and their bodies should adhere to FIVB Rules and Regulations and comply with their structures, respecting the competence of the National Federations.

4.3.4 The Confederations shall include in their Constitution a clause stipulating that the Court of Arbitration for Sport is the last instance appeals body for decisions taken by the Confederations after exhaustion of FIVB internal legal remedies.

4.3.5 The FIVB Secretariat has delegated powers to follow up the timely implementation by Confederations of their statutory obligations and of the FIVB programmes approved by the Board of Administration.

### **4.4 CONFLICT OF DECISIONS**

a) The FIVB Board of Administration may revise all or part of a decision taken by the Confederations if, in its judgment, such decision is contrary to the Constitution, Regulations, official rules, FIVB decisions and general interests of the FIVB.

b) The FIVB is fully empowered to take any actions and make decisions regarding disputes within a Confederation.

c) NFs have the right to request the FIVB Board of Administration to revise all or part of a decision made by a Confederation if they consider such decisions to be contrary to the FIVB Constitution, Regulations, rules and general interest of the sport.

## **4.5 FUNDAMENTAL OBLIGATIONS**

- 4.5.1 The Confederations are the FIVB delegated authority in their territory to the extent provided for in the FIVB Constitution and must submit to the FIVB, before the deadline established by FIVB, the following documents :
- a) the calendar of international competitions and those of its member National Federations;
  - b) the official response or documents required by FIVB Regulations and/or requested by the FIVB Secretariat.
- 4.5.2 The Confederations must use the financial resources received from the FIVB or from their own sponsors exclusively for their statutory purposes.
- 4.5.3 The Confederations must remit to the FIVB, within three (3) months, the meeting minutes of their Board/ Executive and General Assembly.
- 4.5.4 Upon receipt, the Confederations must forward to the FIVB all documents related to an appeal, candidature or request addressed to the FIVB by the National Federations.
- 4.5.5 The Confederations must fully enforce within the scope of their authority, the FIVB Constitution, Regulations and decisions of the FIVB Congress, Executive Committee and Board of Administration.
- 4.5.6 The Confederations are expected to follow up and support the implementation of FIVB programmes, providing guidance to NFs for easier implementation of the plans in their territory, according to the principles determined by the FIVB.
- 4.5.7 The FIVB management and administration systems are to be mirrored as much as possible by Confederations receiving FIVB financial support.
- 4.5.8 The FIVB and the Confederations must identify and monitor situations damaging the image of Volleyball as a top doping-free competitive sport and the FIVB as its worldwide authority, taking the necessary measures to avert such situations.

## **4.6 GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF A CONFEDERATION**

- 4.6.1 The General Assembly is a Confederation's supreme authority under the terms of the FIVB Constitution and these Regulations as follows:
- a) The decisions made by the General Assembly of a Confederation must be respected by its member Federations.
  - b) The Confederations' General Assembly decisions may not conflict with those of the FIVB Congress or Board of Administration.

- c) The General Assembly shall apply “mutatis mutandis” the FIVB Rules of Procedure of the FIVB Congress.

4.6.2 The Confederations’ General Assembly shall be held preferably every year but at least every four (4) years. An elective Congress must be held during the year of the Summer Olympic Games and between three (3) months and four (4) months prior to the FIVB elective World Congress.

4.6.3 The President of the FIVB has the power to co-chair any meeting of the Confederations, including the General Assembly.

## **4.7 BOARD / EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF A CONFEDERATION**

4.7.1 At the session of a Confederation’s General Assembly held the year before the elective FIVB Congress (see Article 4.6.2 above), the NFs-members of the said Confederation shall elect their Board/ Executive Committee for the next four (4) years under the following principles:

- a) The Board/ Executive Committee shall be composed of no less than five (5) members.
- b) The provisions of Article 2.4.1 of the FIVB Constitution, providing requirements for the election to the FIVB Board of Administration, shall apply “mutatis mutandis” to the elections of the Board/ Executive Committee of a Confederation.
- c) FIVB Executive Committee members are ex-officio members of the Board/ Executive Committee of their Confederations.
- d) FIVB Executive Committee members shall remain in function and retain their eligibility regardless of the position of their NFs.
- e) The election of a President of a Confederation shall be compulsorily supervised by a member of the FIVB Executive Committee not from the same Confederation, who will verify the correct interpretation of the Confederation Statutes and that of the FIVB Constitution and Regulations, and ensure that elections are held in accordance with these rules and principles.

4.7.2 The Confederation Board/ Executive Committee shall have the same competence and responsibilities within its Confederation as those held by both the FIVB Board of Administration and Executive Committee except that:

- a) in accordance with its Constitution, only the FIVB is entitled to suspend directly an NF from participation in competitions.
- b) Confederations may request the FIVB to suspend any NF from participation in FIVB and Confederation Congresses if such NF has failed to pay its FIVB annual fee to the Confederation for a period of three years.
- c) Confederations may also request the FIVB to suspend an NF from participation in competitions.

4.7.3 Each Confederation must dedicate at least one full day of its annual Board/ Executive Committee meeting to evaluate its own performance with respect to FIVB projects underway and raise any doubts with the FIVB representative present.

4.7.4 Such Board/ Executive Committee meeting must have the participation, at the FIVB's expense, of one FIVB Executive Vice-President and one member of the FIVB Board of Administration from the same continent.

## **4.8 CONFEDERATION COMMISSIONS**

4.8.1 A Confederation's General Assembly or Board/ Executive Committee may establish standing or temporary commissions with the same basic structure as those of the FIVB:

- a) Each Confederation may have at least a Finance, a Refereeing, an Athlete's Commission (or a Working Group) and a Sports Events Commission, as well as any other commission in line with FIVB, except a Rules of the Game Commission and a continental appeals tribunal.
- b) FIVB Commission members shall become ex-officio members of the corresponding Confederation Commissions.

4.8.2 The Confederation Commissions shall have the same activities and responsibilities as those of the FIVB Commissions which are provided for in Article 2.9 of the FIVB Constitution and Article 5 of these Regulations.

## **4.9 MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS AND DECISIONS**

The Confederations shall send to the FIVB the minutes of the meetings of their General Assembly and Board/ Executive Committee within three (3) months of the closing of the meeting to which the minutes apply.

## **4.10 ESTABLISHMENT OF ZONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

4.10.1 The FIVB may support sports activities of Zonal Associations founded on the basis of geographical, linguistic or cultural links and composed of NFs, provided they have first obtained the approval of FIVB and of their Confederations.

4.10.2 Zonal Associations must refrain from any prejudices of a political, religious or racial nature and must respect the authority of their respective Confederations as well as the principles and provisions of the FIVB Constitution and Regulations.

4.10.3 Once approved by the FIVB and respective Confederations, the Zonal Associations are responsible, in their respective zone, for:

- a) spreading the practice of local, national and regional Volleyball competitions;
- b) encouraging the creation of NFs and their affiliation to the FIVB;
- c) ensuring the respect of the FIVB Constitution, Regulations, rules and decisions and those of their Confederations;
- d) organising zonal championships;
- e) drawing up an annual calendar of activities including international competitions, submitting it to their Confederations and to the relevant FIVB institutions for approval; and
- f) presenting an annual administrative report to the FIVB and to their Confederations, comprising, in particular, the sports results of their international competitions.

#### 4.10.4 Recognition

The Zonal Associations may be recognised if:

- a) Their statutes have been previously reviewed by their Confederation concerned and afterwards approved by the FIVB.
- b) their activities are purely for the purpose of raising their sports level and they do not jeopardise or undermine the authority of their Confederation; and
- c) their creation is beyond any political or discriminative implications.

#### 4.10.5 Functioning

- a) The Zonal Associations are composed of NFs incorporated in a specific Confederation and, therefore, shall function according to the Regulations approved by the said Confederation and the FIVB.
- b) To be a member of a Zonal Association, an NF should share a geographical proximity with other NFs.
- c) It is recommended that the National Federations of a Zonal Association have as much as possible similar technical level to compete in the World Championship Qualification process and/or Continental Championships.



## Article 5

### FIVB Commissions

The commissions shall meet at least once (1) a year under the direction of the FIVB President, to discuss reports of activities carried out during the previous year; projects and proposals presented to the commissions and the yearly, biennial and quadrennial working programmes. The Commissions may undertake any other tasks as requested by the FIVB President or the Executive Committee or the Board of Administration.

#### **5.1 REQUIREMENTS TO BECOME MEMBER OF A COMMISSION**

The following constitutes the basic membership requirements for any of the Commissions:

- 5.1.1 To have an extensive knowledge of the FIVB, its institutions, its activities and its operations;
- 5.1.2 To have a complete knowledge of the specific operations of the commissions for which the candidates wish to become members;
- 5.1.3 To have personal national or international experience and the required expertise for the specific competence of the commissions;
- 5.1.4 To have a college or university degree or an equivalent professional experience within the public and private sector in relation with the activities of the commission;
- 5.1.5 To comply with the policy guidance established by the Board of Administration as per the provisions of Article 2.4.2.3 of the FIVB Constitution;
- 5.1.6 To speak at least one of the two (2) FIVB working languages: English or French;
- 5.1.7 To dispose freely of a minimum of thirty (30) days per year, in separate periods, to accomplish the duties of their respective commissions and attend meetings or competitions;
- 5.1.8 Never to have been suspended by the FIVB;
- 5.1.9 To belong to an NF represented at the last Congress.

#### **5.2 COMPOSITION**

A minimum of five (5) Members and one (1) President of each of the Commissions shall be nominated by the Board of Administration as provided for in Article 2.9.2

of the FIVB Constitution. The President and Secretary of a Commission are appointed by the Board of Administration on proposal of the FIVB President. All Confederations shall be represented in each Commission.

### **5.3 OFFICIALS OF THE COMMISSIONS**

5.3.1 The Presidents, Secretaries and members of Commissions are nominated by the Board of Administration for a four-year (4) period, after the Congress held during the year of the Summer Olympic Games.

5.3.2 Whenever a member of a commission cannot hold office, another member proposed by the FIVB President shall replace him. This substitution will take effect after ratification by the next Board of Administration meeting.

### **5.4 COMPETENCE OF THE OFFICIALS**

5.4.1 The Commission President shall:

- a) preside and conduct the meetings;
- b) represent his commission;
- c) coordinate its activities; and
- d) report to the Executive Committee or the Board of Administration on the work performed.

5.4.2 The Commission Secretary shall:

- a) prepare the minutes of the meetings and the reports for the Board of Administration; and
- b) present to the FIVB Secretariat the expense vouchers approved by the Commission President.

5.4.3 The Commission members shall:

- a) seek administrative support from the FIVB Secretariat ; and
- b) coordinate their activities with the FIVB Secretariat.

5.4.4 All financial matters concerning the commissions will be settled in accordance with the FIVB General Regulations and Financial Regulations, as approved by the Board of Administration.

### **5.5 LIST OF THE COMMISSIONS**

The Board of Administration created the following commissions:

- a) Development Commission;
- b) Finance Commission;
- c) Legal Commission;
- d) Medical Commission;
- e) Communication Commission;
- f) Rules of the Game and Refereeing Commission;

- g) Technical and Coaching Commission;
- h) Beach Volleyball Commission;
- i) Athletes' Commission and
- j) Snow Volleyball Commission.

## 5.6 SPECIFIC COMPETENCE OF THE COMMISSIONS

### 5.6.1 Development Commission

The Development Commission shall have the following terms of reference:

- a) development of the Volleyball community through promoting its unity and consolidating the Mission of the FIVB and its World Vision through:
  - Activating programmes of management education under set principles and programmes for National Federations and Confederations;
  - Promotion of a common Volleyball culture through networking and sharing of objectives.
- b) development of Volleyball by assisting National Federations to achieve their highest potential and improve their standards in the areas of national competition, international participation, funding, development programmes, management and media through:
  - Volleyball Cooperation Programmes;
  - Development Centres;
  - Programmes for all forms of Volleyball.
- c) to support Volleyball activities designed to develop a lasting legacy for communities and individuals through:
  - Women's programmes;
  - Youth programmes;
  - Cooperation with governmental and non-governmental agencies on humanitarian and social issues;
  - NFs' social responsibility.
- d) to review any request for the development fund coming from Confederations, or from Zonal Associations and National Federations through their Confederations;
- e) to fix the financial support for each project, as well as the initial financial support for the start of the project, to be approved by the Board of Administration; and
- f) to request a regular report (at least every 6 months) about the progress of the projects.

### 5.6.2 Finance Commission

The Finance Commission shall have the following terms of reference:

- a) to study FIVB financial status and submit a report to the Executive Committee;

- b) to approve the annual balance of accounts and the report on them presented by the Treasurer;
- c) to verify the budgets prepared by the FIVB Finance Department and approved by the FIVB President and the Treasurer and submit them to the Executive Committee for approval, then to the Board of Administration for approval;
- d) to submit to the FIVB Executive Committee the annual financial report prepared under the supervision of the FIVB Finance Department; and
- e) to advise the President and/or the Executive Committee on new investments and sources of income, as well as on proposals for the reduction or modification of expenditure;

### 5.6.3 Legal Commission

The Legal Commission shall have the following terms of reference:

- a) to study proposals related to the modifications of the FIVB Constitution and Regulations and to submit a report to the Executive Committee, Board of Administration and Congress;
- b) to study controversies between NFs on the interpretation of the FIVB Constitution and Regulations and submit a report;
- c) to verify the Statutes and Regulations of the Confederations and submit a report to the Executive Committee;
- d) to propose regulations on the eligibility of players for FIVB, world and official competitions and the Olympic Games according to the Sports Regulations and issue an opinion if requested by the Executive Committee;
- e) to investigate accusations related to a player's status if they are properly documented and submit a report to the Executive Committee;
- f) to consider, give advice or make proposals on legal problems or disputes submitted to it in connection with international transfer matters;
- g) to verify the basic documents for the affiliation of a new NF before approval by the Board of Administration and ratification by the Congress;
- h) to study rules for the use of publicity on national team uniforms;
- i) to study the rules authorising the use of emblems and publicity on the uniforms of officials and auxiliary personnel accomplishing duties during world and official competitions; and
- j) to study the duties of the FIVB Commissions and submit a report to the Executive Committee.

### 5.6.4 Medical Commission

The Medical Commission shall have the following terms of reference:

- a) to disseminate among coaches and Volleyball players the basic

- medical information for prevention and treatment of the most common injuries caused in the course of playing Volleyball;
- b) to draft the principles and verify the conditions under which the organisers of competitions shall undertake and plan the preparation of food, hygiene, medical care and medical emergency services for players and participants;
  - c) to supervise medical assistance to players during competitions;
  - d) to supervise medical control of the referees during competitions;
  - e) to revise and update the FIVB Medical and Anti-Doping Regulations in line with the WADA Code and latest developments in the field of sports medicine;
  - f) to maintain permanent contact and cooperation with the international organisations of sports medicine, particularly with the IOC Medical Commission and the International Federation of Sports Medicine;
  - g) to select a group of doctors specialising in sports medicine applied to Volleyball in order to consider them as lecturers at courses or symposia organised by an NF under the supervision of the Commission;
  - h) to evaluate new findings, theories and scientific studies made in the medical and physiological area of sports training and teaching.

#### 5.6.5 Communication Commission

The Communication Commission shall have the following terms of reference:

- a) to study proposals with respect to the Commissions' rules aimed at improving and widening relations with the press and promoting circulation of information on Volleyball;
- b) to propose ideas, initiatives and solutions for the FIVB in order to maintain a good relationship with the international press;
- c) to make suggestions to improve FIVB means of communication (press releases, bulletins, magazines, etc.) and adapt them to new requirements as they arise;
- d) to provide indications and norms for the FIVB to obtain the best possible cooperation on the part of the Confederations and NFs with respect to communications requirements;
- e) to suggest any modifications that may be necessary to ensure that decisions taken by other commissions do not have a negative effect on relations between the FIVB and the press;
- f) to promote initiatives for the FIVB to maintain the best possible relations with international or continental journalists' associations and the press offices of organisations with which it has frequent contacts;
- g) to provide consulting services and opinions on FIVB initiatives addressed to the public that directly or indirectly involve the

- press; and
- h) to pursue the objective of building Volleyball archives for the recovery/construction of Volleyball history.

#### 5.6.6 Rules of the Game and Refereeing Commission

The Rules of the Game and Refereeing Commission shall have the following terms of reference:

- a) to draft the official text of the Volleyball Rules in English and French (for subsequent translation into Spanish and Arabic) and submit it to the Executive Committee and Board of Administration;
- b) to obtain from the Confederations and FIVB Commissions all possible facts and opinions on proposed rule changes before presentation to the Board of Administration;
- c) to make tests and practical studies before proposing changes to the Volleyball Rules of the Game;
- d) to ensure respect of the official text of the Volleyball Rules of the Game through studies and decisions on practical problems of the application of the said Rules;
- e) to maintain a unified interpretation of the Volleyball Rules of the Game throughout the world;
- f) to seek the improvement of the qualifications and knowledge of International Referees;
- g) to determine the teaching programme, material and documents deemed necessary for the qualification of International Referees;
- h) to maintain and up-date once (1) a year the list of the different categories of active International Referees, including FIVB Referees;
- i) to submit an annual list of International Referees to the Executive Committee and Board of Administration;
- j) to supervise the organisation of courses for candidate International Referees and the instructors responsible for the preparation and education of referees in cooperation with NFs authorised to organise such courses;
- k) to set up and submit, to the Executive Committee and Board of Administration, the standard rules for refereeing courses;
- l) to study and publicise the experience obtained during refereeing courses and competitions concerning the theory and practice of refereeing;
- m) to advise the NFs on the setting-up of national programmes aimed at improving the qualifications of national referees and to establish the appropriate guidelines; and
- n) to propose to the FIVB President the nomination for International Referees for World and FIVB Competitions.

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### 5.6.7 Technical and Coaching Commission

The Technical and Coaching Commission shall have the following terms of reference:

- a) to prepare informative, explanatory bulletins, pamphlets, other printed material, films, video tapes and special teaching equipment for Volleyball administrators, coaches, referees, instructors and mini-Volley experts;
- b) to initiate projects to be undertaken in the education and sports training sectors;
- c) to inform the NFs on the material and equipment required for the preparation of courses and training of teams at all levels;
- d) to supervise the coaches' and administrators' courses, through special visits of one (1) of its members or through the normal experts, and report to the Executive Committee;
- e) to prepare the programme of international courses for NF managers and set up guidelines on the required characteristics of the various lecturers as well as of the teaching materials;
- f) jointly with the FIVB Secretariat, to determine the teaching subjects which should be included in the courses of the Development Centres and the required teaching material and equipment;
- g) to obtain promotional material for recreational Volleyball activities, including Mini-Volley;
- h) to test and approve the equipment and material needed in order to keep conditions ideal for the game;
- i) to study and determine the testing procedures for approval of Volleyball equipment and material including, but not limited to balls, posts, nets, referee chairs, linesmen's flags, antennae, synthetic floors, lighting, electric and manual scoreboard, substitution plaques and material such as films, slides, video tapes, brochures, books;
- j) to study and approve the minimal technical standards for competition halls and to obtain for publication the designs and plans on the construction of competition halls, lighting systems, models of material and auxiliary equipment for training and competition;
- k) to help the National Federations prepare a basic programme for national courses for school teachers;
- l) to prepare, in collaboration with the Development commission, informative and explanatory bulletins, pamphlets, or other printed material, films, video tapes and special teaching equipment, as needed for any Development Plan, to be used by coaches, instructors, and all people involved in the promotion of Volleyball at school;
- m) to inform the National Federations of the material and equipment required for the preparation of courses and training of teams at

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- school level;
- n) to seek the improvement of the qualifications and knowledge of coaches;
  - o) to advise the NFs on the setting-up of national programmes aimed at improving the qualifications of national coaches and instructors;
  - p) to supervise the organisation of courses and conferences aimed at the preparation of instructors, monitors and coaches in cooperation with NFs and whenever requested by Confederations, and authorise the issue of certificates at the appropriate level;
  - q) to set up and submit to the Executive Committee and Board of Administration the rules for coaches courses;
  - r) to study the background of experts from the various continents and select the most highly qualified and duly certified in different levels and languages, in order to submit their names to the Executive Committee for their inclusion in the list of official instructors for conducting coaches courses;
  - s) to supervise the preparation of audio-visual teaching materials such as manuals, slides, video tapes, films, posters, etc.;
  - t) to supervise the preparation and organisation of symposia and other meetings aimed at discussing or analysing the technical findings and new experiences and to offer the needed support to the organising NF;
  - u) to monitor, follow up and report individual, national or international scientific research, investigations and studies as well as demonstration matches aimed at improving methods of play and training;
  - v) to keep up to date the statistical evaluation of players and teams performance in competitions; and
  - w) to supervise and control the application of the statistical evaluation of players in cooperation with the organisers of competitions.

#### 5.6.8 Beach Volleyball Commission

The Beach Volleyball Commission shall have the following terms of reference:

- a) to develop and to organize Beach Volleyball development programs worldwide outside the World Tour and World Championships properties.
- b) in cooperation with the Continental Confederations, to set up the yearly, biennial and quadrennial official calendar of international Beach Volleyball Competitions to be presented to the Executive Committee and Board of Administration;
- c) to keep up to date the Competition Regulations, the Specific Regulations and sanctions for Beach Volleyball to be presented



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- to the Executive Committee and Board of Administration;
  - d) to assist the Beach Volleyball Department with the preparation of the yearly Beach Volleyball Sport Operation Manual;
  - e) to follow up and assist with the preparation of the technical aspects of the organisation of all world and official competitions with the logistical assistance of the Secretariat;
  - f) to present reports to the Executive Committee and Board of Administration on the progress of all technical and sporting plans, programmes and regulations of world and official competitions;
  - g) to set up guidelines for the issue of documents and daily bulletins containing information on the results and staging of world and official competitions;
  - h) to seek administrative support from and coordinate its activities with the FIVB Beach Volleyball Department Director;
  - i) to submit to the Congress no later than six (6) months prior to its opening a detailed activity programme for the two (2) following fiscal years as well as proposals, which must have been previously approved by the Board of Administration; and
  - j) to meet once a year to discuss reports of the activities carried out the previous year, the projects or proposals presented to the Commission and the yearly, biennial and quadrennial working programme.

#### 5.6.9 Athletes' Commission

The Athletes' Commission shall have the following terms of reference:

- a) to promote the values of Volleyball in all its forms as a clean and fair sport;
- b) to disseminate information to athletes regarding medical and anti-doping matters;
- c) to study proposals for the improvement of athletes' conditions when participating or preparing for competitions;
- d) to study proposals for the athletes' post-career opportunities;
- e) to provide feedback on FIVB competitions and propose improvements; and
- f) to study any other issue assigned to it by the FIVB Board of Administration.

The composition of the Athletes' Commission is determined by Appendix 2 of these General Regulations.

Should an active or former volleyball or beach volleyball player (not being a member of the FIVB Athletes' Commission) become a member of the IOC Athletes' Commission, he/she shall become a member of the FIVB Athletes' Commission *ex officio*. The athlete in question shall be deemed an external expert under Article 2.9.2.1.3 FIVB Constitution.

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#### 5.6.10 Snow Volleyball Commission

The Snow Volleyball Commission shall have the following terms of reference:

- a) to develop and to organize Snow Volleyball development programs worldwide outside the World Tour and World Championships properties.
- b) in cooperation with the Continental Confederations and the internal FIVB department in charge of Snow Volleyball, to assist in setting up the yearly, biennial and quadrennial official calendar of international Snow Volleyball Competitions to be presented to the Executive Committee and Board of Administration;
- c) to work with the internal FIVB department in charge of Snow Volleyball to assist in the preparation of the Competition Regulations, the Specific Regulations and sanctions for Snow Volleyball to be presented to the Executive Committee and Board of Administration;
- d) to assist the internal FIVB department in charge of Snow Volleyball with the preparation of the yearly Handbook;
- e) to follow up on the preparation of the organisation of all world and official competitions with the Secretariat;
- f) to present proposals to the Executive Committee and Board of Administration related to Snow Volleyball in conjunction with the internal FIVB department in charge of Snow Volleyball;
- g) to set up guidelines for the issue of documents and daily bulletins containing information on the results and staging of world and official competitions;
- h) to seek administrative support from and coordinate its activities with the internal FIVB department in charge of Snow Volleyball;
- i) to prepare a report, which must have been previously approved by the Board of Administration, at least six (6) months before the FIVB World Congress and present that report at the FIVB World Congress; and
- j) to meet once a year to discuss reports of the activities carried out the previous year, the projects or proposals presented by the Commission and the yearly, biennial and quadrennial working programs.

### 5.7 ROLE OF THE FIVB SECRETARIAT IN RELATION TO THE COMMISSIONS

5.7.1 The Commissions shall be assisted by the FIVB Secretariat for all administrative and financial matters including, but not limited to, the scheduling of meetings, the control and verification of expenditure, the assignment of specific tasks and responsibilities.

5.7.2 The FIVB Secretariat shall provide proper assistance, guidelines and sufficient resources needed by the Commissions to fulfil their responsibilities.

## Article 6

### Ad-hoc commissions and other bodies

#### **6.1 COMPETENCE TO ESTABLISH THEM**

The Board of Administration and the Executive Committee, under delegation from the Board of Administration, are hereby authorised to establish any Ad Hoc Commissions, Advisory Body, Committees, Councils and Task Forces, whose creation is necessary mandatory for the proper implementation of the FIVB objectives.

#### **6.2 REPORTS TO THE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION**

The Executive Committee must report to the Board of Administration on the appointments of such Ad Hoc Commissions, Advisors, Committees, Councils and Task Forces as well as on their activities.

# Article 7

## Councils

### 7.1 REGULATIONS AND STRUCTURE

- 7.1.1 Pursuant to the powers given to it by Article 2.8 of the Constitution, the FIVB Board of Administration has created the following Councils:
- a) Volleyball Council;
  - b) Volleyball Nations League Council; and
  - c) Beach Volleyball World Tour and World Championships Council.
- 7.1.2 Such Councils may be structured independently from the other FIVB institutions but shall always be subordinated to the FIVB governing institutions and shall be subject to the jurisdiction of FIVB's judicial bodies. The members of the Councils shall be appointed by the Board of Administration based on the specific tasks and objectives of each Council.
- 7.1.3 The Volleyball Nations League Council operates independently from the Volleyball Council.

### 7.2 VOLLEYBALL COUNCIL

- 7.2.1 The Volleyball Council is composed of a Chairperson, a Secretary, the five (5) Presidents of Confederations, representatives of NFs, National Leagues, and two (2) representatives of the Athletes' Commission (one [1] male and one [1] female athlete).
- 7.2.2 The Volleyball Council is competent to:
- a) establish the official annual, biennial and quadrennial calendar of international competitions;
  - b) keep the FIVB Event Regulations and the FIVB Sports Regulations up to date;
  - c) keep the FIVB World Rankings up to date, establishing the guidelines and attribution of points;
  - d) establish the specific Competition Regulations for FIVB World Competitions with the logistical assistance of the FIVB Volleyball Department;
  - e) monitor the preparation and organisation of FIVB World Competitions with the logistical assistance of the Volleyball Department;
  - f) present reports to the Executive Committee and Board of Administration on the progress of all operational plans by the organisers of FIVB World Competitions;
  - g) establish guidelines for the staging of FIVB World and Official

- Competitions as required;
- h) assist in the development of National Leagues;
  - i) regulate the registration and control of the transfer of players according to the Sports Regulations;
  - j) supervise all matters in connection with players' agents; and
  - k) undertake any other tasks as requested by the Executive Committee or the Board of Administration.

### **7.3 VOLLEYBALL NATIONS LEAGUE COUNCIL**

- 7.3.1 The Volleyball Nations League Council is composed as follows:
- a) The FIVB Volleyball Director, acting as Chairperson; and
  - b) Two (2) delegates per country that have committed themselves to participate in the Volleyball Nations League under the specific financial, organisational and marketing conditions established by the FIVB. One (1) of the delegates should be the NF President. Delegates of countries leaving the Volleyball Nations League will be replaced by delegates of newly incorporated countries.
  - c) The Volleyball Nations League Council operates under the FIVB President.
- 7.3.2 The Volleyball Nations League Council is competent to submit proposals and provide feedback with regards to the organisation of the Volleyball Nations to the FIVB, FIVB Board of Administration and the Sports Events Council.

### **7.4 BEACH VOLLEYBALL WORLD TOUR AND WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS COUNCIL**

- 7.4.1 The Beach Volleyball World Tour and World Championships Council is composed of:
- a) The FIVB Beach Volleyball Director, acting as Chairperson;
  - b) A representative of the National Federations hosting a World Tour event or the World Championships during the following season(s);
  - c) A representative of the promoters of the World Tour events / World Championships promoting an event during the following season(s); and
  - d) TV and marketing agencies, FIVB sponsors, broadcasters, etc. (invited by the FIVB).
- 7.4.2 The Beach Volleyball World Tour and World Championships Council operates under the FIVB President and competent to submit proposals and provide feedback with regards to the organisation of the Beach Volleyball World Tour and the FIVB World Championships to the FIVB, FIVB Board of Administration and the Beach Volleyball Commission.

## Article 8

### FIVB Secretariat

#### **8.1 UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE FIVB PRESIDENT**

The FIVB Secretariat, acting under the authority and management of the FIVB President, shall take all necessary measures to ensure that the FIVB Constitution and Regulations are respected. It shall provide support and assistance to the various Institutions of the FIVB in order to promote the technical level, image and moral implication of Volleyball at the highest level.

#### **8.2 THE FUNCTIONS OF THE SECRETARIAT**

The functions of the Secretariat shall be to:

- a) plan and organise the meetings of the Congress, Board of Administration, Executive Committee, Councils and Commissions;
- b) prepare the reports for the work of the Commissions at their meetings and for the implementation of projects approved by the Board of Administration, and any other reports as required;
- c) study the reports of the various meetings and request from the FIVB institutions such further information as it deems necessary to ensure the implementation of the FIVB Constitution;
- d) perform the functions entrusted to it under the provisions of the FIVB Constitution;
- e) to select and hire, subject to the approval of the President, the requisite staff to execute professionally the decisions of the FIVB institutions;
- f) publish periodically and distribute to the NFs and the public, latest editions of all FIVB publications, together with any information which will facilitate the development and growth of Volleyball; and
- g) perform any other functions as may be entrusted to it by the Congress, the Board of Administration, the Executive Committee and the President.

## Article 9

### FIVB Owned Companies

#### **9.1 FIVB RIGHTS**

The FIVB is the sole owner of all rights, including, but not limited to, hosting, media, digital, sponsorship, licensing, marketing and any other rights, including rights not yet developed, related to its competitions as defined in its regulatory framework and any future FIVB competitions that it may organise or sanction.

#### **9.2 EXPLOITATION OF FIVB RIGHTS THROUGH A THIRD PARTY ENTITY CONTROLLED BY FIVB**

In accordance with Article 2.6.2.6 of the FIVB Constitution, the FIVB Board of Administration, based on a proposal negotiated by the FIVB President may decide to grant an exclusive license to commercially exploit all or part of the FIVB rights to a third party entity provided that the FIVB shall have and retain at all times a majority stake in the third party entity to which the commercial exploitation of the FIVB rights are licensed on an exclusive basis.

## Article 10

### Entry into force

This text was initially approved by the FIVB Board of Administration on 21 March 2022. The latest amendments were subject to amendments to the FIVB Constitution approved by the FIVB Congress on 24 September 2022 and shall enter into force on 25 December 2022.



## **Appendix 1- FIVB Rules on Integrity Check of Candidates**

### **1. General provisions**

- 1.1. The FIVB Constitution obliges candidates for the official positions, e.g. FIVB President, FIVB Board of Administration members, FIVB Executive Committee members, within the FIVB to undergo an integrity check.
- 1.2. An integrity check is a process of screening and self-disclosure serving to assess the fitness and propriety of a person to obtain an official position within the FIVB.
- 1.3. The integrity check is conducted by the FIVB Ethics Panel which will decide whether a candidate has successfully passed the integrity check. Regulations on its composition and its terms of reference result from Chapter 2 of the FIVB Disciplinary Regulations.

### **2. Procedural provisions**

- 2.1 Upon request of the FIVB Ethics Panel, every individual subject to the integrity check shall submit the completed Integrity Check Questionnaire (see Annex A) and a passport copy providing information verifying the individual's name, country of residence, date and place of birth as well as citizenship.
- 2.2 The FIVB Ethics Panel may, at its sole discretion request any additional information from the particular individual it deems necessary, for the performance of the integrity check.
- 2.3 The FIVB Ethics Panel may conduct independent research and/or investigations in order to obtain further relevant information on a particular individual, which may include information on intermediaries and related parties, mandates, potential conflicts of interests, and significant participations as well as civil and criminal proceedings/investigations.
- 2.4 The FIVB Ethics Panel may, at its sole discretion, in the context of conducting integrity checks, call on external specialized professional resources.
- 2.5 Individuals subject to integrity checks are obliged to collaborate in establishing the relevant facts and to provide truthful information. In particular, they shall
  - 2.5.1 comply, upon reasonable notice, with requests for any documents, information or any other material of any nature held by them or which they are entitled to obtain;
  - 2.5.2 release relevant institutions from any obligation of confidentiality relating to the information requested from these institutions;
  - 2.5.3 notify the FIVB Ethics Panel of any relevant fact or circumstances arising after the integrity check has been completed.

### **3. Substantive provisions**

- 3.1 A candidate shall not pass the integrity check, if he or she:

- 3.1.1 is subject to an order by a competent authority that the candidate is lacking in competence to manage its own affairs;
  - 3.1.2 is currently the subject of bankruptcy proceedings, has been declared insolvent by a competent authority or is subject to a condition not yet fulfilled or any order under insolvency laws;
  - 3.1.3 has been sentenced by a competent authority to imprisonment of more than one (1) year;
  - 3.1.4 is prohibited from holding an official position within any sport association or taking part in the management of a company for breach or non-compliance with any law applicable to that candidate;
  - 3.1.5 has been convicted by the competent body of any sport association of any major ethical or anti-doping rule violation;
  - 3.1.6 if the candidate concerned is found to have committed any other serious misconduct which is incompatible with the role of a leading representative of the FIVB.
  - 3.1.7 fails to fully comply with the obligations defined in Article 2 above.
- 3.2 Non-compliance with any of the candidates' obligations mentioned under Article 2 above may also lead to sanctions imposed by the FIVB Ethics Panel in accordance with the FIVB Disciplinary Regulations.

#### **4. Effect and Appeal**

- 4.1 If the FIVB Ethics Panel decides that a candidate has not passed the integrity check, it shall declare the candidate ineligible for the official position he or she seeks to candidate for. A declaration to that effect will have immediate effect from the date that the candidate is notified of the reasoned decision.
- 4.2 An Appeal against the decision of the FIVB Ethics Panel may be submitted exclusively by way of appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland, which will resolve the dispute definitively in accordance with the Code of sports-related arbitration. The time limit for appeal is fourteen (14) days after the reception of the decision with grounds concerning the appeal.

## **Appendix 2 - FIVB Rules for Athletes Commission Elections/Appointments**

### **1. Overview, Role and Terms of Reference**

- 1.1. The FIVB Constitution provides that the FIVB may establish Commission in order to facilitate the implementation of the objectives of the FIVB (Article 2.9.1 of the FIVB Constitution).
- 1.2. The primary role of the Commission is to make proposals to the Board of Administration and Executive Committee on matters of a highly technical or specialised nature (Article 2.9.3 of the FIVB Constitution).
- 1.3. The FIVB Athletes Commission was established in 2016 during the Summer Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro. In accordance with Article 5.6.9 of the FIVB General Regulations, it has the following terms of reference:
  - a) to promote the values of volleyball and beach volleyball as a clean and fair sport;
  - b) to disseminate information to the athletes regarding medical and anti-doping matters;
  - c) to study proposals for the improvement of athletes' conditions when participating or preparing for competitions;
  - d) to study proposals for the athletes' post-career opportunities;
  - e) to provide feedback on FIVB competitions and propose improvements; and
  - f) to study any other issue assigned to it by the FIVB Board of Administration.
- 1.4. The FIVB World Congress 2018 approved an amendment to the FIVB Constitution to allow for a specialised appointment process, including the possibility of elections, for the FIVB Athletes Commission. This document defines that appointment and election process.

### **2. Composition**

- 2.1 The Athletes Commission shall be composed of ten (10) members of which five (5) members shall be elected and five (5) members shall be appointed in accordance with the procedures defined below.
- 2.2 The Athletes Commission shall have the same number of members from volleyball and beach volleyball. The FIVB may agree to add a member from snow volleyball in the future.
- 2.3 The Athletes Commission shall have equal gender representation amongst its membership.

### **3. Eligibility provisions**

- 3.1 In order to be eligible to be elected to the Athletes Commission, a candidate shall:
- 3.1.1 be an active athlete or have participated in a competition organized by FIVB or a Confederation in the 8-year period preceding the submission of their candidature;
  - 3.1.2 have participated (selected for the final roster in volleyball or registered and played in a match for beach volleyball) in at least one Olympic Games or FIVB World Championships;
  - 3.1.3 have never been sanctioned by the competent body of any sport association for a major disciplinary, ethical or anti-doping offence and
  - 3.1.4 have no ongoing legal procedures against the FIVB.
- 3.2 In order to be eligible to vote in the Athletes Commission elections, a voter shall:
- 3.2.1 be at least eighteen (18) years old;
  - 3.2.2 be an active athlete or have participated in a competition organized by FIVB or a Confederation in the 8-year period preceding the election and
  - 3.2.3 have participated (selected for the final roster in volleyball or registered and played in a match for beach volleyball) in at least one Olympic Games, FIVB World Championships or 50 percent of the matches of her or his National Federation team in one season of the Volleyball Nations League or of the highest level of the beach volleyball annual tour.
- 3.3 An Athletes Commission member, whether elected or appointed, shall be limited to a maximum of two (2) terms of four (4) years as FIVB Athletes Commission member.

### **4. Procedural provisions**

- 4.1 Candidatures
- 4.1.1 In accordance with Article 2.9.2.1.1 of the FIVB Constitution, candidatures to the Commissions shall be submitted to the FIVB President by the National Federations, with a copy to their respective Confederations, no later than six (6) months prior to the opening of the FIVB World Congress held during the year of the Summer Olympic Games. In the event of force majeure and only for purposes of candidatures for the Athletes Commission elections, the FIVB reserves the right to re-open the candidature window within the six (6) month period prior to the opening of the FIVB World Congress.
  - 4.1.2 Candidatures for the FIVB Athletes Commission shall include the following as part of their candidature:

- a) a signed copy of the FIVB Commission candidature forms;
- b) a copy of the candidate's passport;
- c) a copy of the candidate's curriculum vitae and
- d) documentation demonstrating that he or she satisfies the eligibility criteria to be a member of the Athletes Commission.

## 4.2 Election Procedure

### 4.2.1 Campaigning

- a) From the date of the submission of candidatures through the closing of the elections, candidates may campaign on behalf of themselves provided that such campaign does not violate the relevant provisions of the FIVB Code of Ethics related to election candidatures.
- b) If a candidate wishes to campaign at the site of a competition, he or she must first obtain permission to campaign from the FIVB, Confederation or National Federation responsible for organising the event.
- c) No campaign shall be allowed at the site of the volleyball or beach volleyball competitions during the Olympic Games.

### 4.2.2 Election criteria

The period and specific dates of the Athletes Commission elections shall be defined by the FIVB and the outgoing FIVB Athletes Commission.

### 4.2.3 Voting

- a) Each eligible voter as defined above shall be entitled to cast one vote. Voting by proxy is not permitted.
- b) The election procedure shall be conducted by secret ballot. It shall be conducted electronically through an internet voting system defined by the FIVB. In its sole discretion, the FIVB may choose to set up computer stations on-site to allow athletes to access the internet voting system on-site.

### 4.2.4 Appointment of members by election

- a) The male and female candidate from each discipline with the highest number of votes shall be elected as Athlete Commission members, resulting in four (4) members elected.
- b) The final elected member shall be the person, regardless of gender and discipline, who received the highest number of votes from the remaining candidates.

4.3 Appointment Procedure

- 4.3.1 The remaining five (5) members shall be proposed by the FIVB President and appointed by the FIVB Board of Administration from the remaining candidatures received within the deadline in accordance with the same procedure for the appointment of commission members defined in the FIVB Constitution and FIVB General Regulations.
- 4.3.2 The appointments shall be made considering the restrictions in composition defined in Clauses 2.2 and 2.3 above.
- 4.3.3 The FIVB President shall have the right to propose the President and Secretary of the Athletes Commission from either the members elected or appointed to the Commission.

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**Annex****Integrity check questionnaire**

First name(s):	
Surname(s)	
Date of birth:	
Member association:	
Citizenship:	
Profession:	

1.

Have you ever been convicted for a criminal offence to imprisonment of more than one (1) year?

 No Yes

If yes, please specify:

2.

Has any sports body ever imposed a disciplinary sanction on you (including sanctions for anti-doping rule violations)?

 No Yes

If yes, please specify:

3.

Are you the subject of any pending civil, criminal or disciplinary proceedings or investigations?

 No Yes

If yes, please specify:

4.

I currently hold the following positions related to the sport of volleyball:

5.

The following facts and circumstances may give rise to potential conflicts of interest with respect to my services as FIVB official (cf. in particular Section II Chapter 1 Art. 4.5 and 6 of the FIVB Disciplinary Regulations):

6.

Remarks and observations, which may be of potential relevance in the present context:

7.

I am fully aware and agree that this questionnaire is made available to the members of the FIVB Ethics Panel and that I am subject to the provisions of the FIVB Disciplinary Regulations and to the provisions of the Constitution and other regulations of the FIVB that address integrity issues. By signing this document, I declare that I fully comply with such provisions.

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(Place and date)

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(Signature)