

2014-2016 CEV BEACH VOLLEYBALL CONTINENTAL CUP



BEACH VOLLEYBALL
CEV CONTINENTAL CUP

OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION No. 5

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The 2014-2016 CEV Beach Volleyball Continental Cup Final has been assigned to the city of Stavanger in Norway.

The Final is due to be played on 22-26 June 2016 as a double gender event:

- Women's tournament from 22-25 June 2016
- Men's tournament from 23-26 June 2016

The 1st ranked NF in each gender will qualify a spot to the 2016 Rio Olympic Games Beach Volleyball tournament while the 2nd and 3rd ranked NFs will qualify to the 2016 FIVB World Continental Cup Olympic Qualification Tournament.

1.1 2016 FIVB WORLD CONTINENTAL CUP OLYMPIC QUALIFICATION

The tournament will be organised on 5-10 July 2016 in Russia and is composed of the 2nd and 3rd ranked countries from each of the 5 Confederations Continental Cup Finals and will qualify two places per gender to the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

In case Russia qualifies through the CEV Continental Cup Final to the 2016 FIVB World Continental Cup Olympic Qualification tournament in either gender, this gender will be played with 10 NFs as follows:

- 10 quotas: 2 NFs per Confederation x 5 Confederations.

In case Russia will not qualify to the 2016 FIVB World Continental Cup Olympic Qualification through the CEV Continental Cup Final in either gender, the 2016 FIVB World Continental Cup Olympic Qualification will be played with 12 NFs and will be composed as follows:

- 1 quota: NF-RUS (Host NF)
- 10 quotas: 2 NFs per Confederation x 5 Confederations
- 1 additional quota: NF from CEV (as per the result of drawing of lots held at the 2015 FIVB Beach Volleyball Commission meeting).

This additional quota will be allocated to the NF ranked 4th in the CEV Continental Cup Final in the gender concerned. In case Russia will be ranked 4th, the spot will be allocated to the best ranked NF in the CEV Country Ranking as of 13 June 2016 amongst those classified as 5th in the CEV Continental Cup Final in the gender concerned. In case of a tie the spot will be allocated to the NF with the higher ranked, not yet qualified team in the Olympic Ranking as of 13 June 2016. If a tie still exists the next best ranked team(s) decides.

The additional quota will be also granted in case Russia wins the CEV Continental Cup Final and has not reached the maximum of 2 spots per NF to the Olympic Games.

2. COMPETITION PARAMETERS

2.1 COMPETITION FORMAT

The event will be played using a 16 NFs single elimination in a country vs. country matches "best-of-three" format. Each NF participates with 2 teams per gender composed of 2 players each.

In the “best-of-three” format the sequence of matches will be as follows:

- Match No 1: (Higher seeded NF) team 1 vs (Lower seeded NF) team 2
- Match No 2: (Higher seeded NF) team 2 vs (Lower seeded NF) team 1
- Match No 3: “Golden Match” – in case of tie in matches won and lost

In case of a tie after the 2 matches a “Golden Match” has to be played. In such case the person accredited as Head of Delegation of each NF through the respective CEV form and re-confirmed during the Preliminary Inquiry, has to endorse in writing to the CEV Technical Supervisor which athletes will play the Golden Match (this match can be played in any combination of the 4 participating athletes per NF). This confirmation must be communicated to the CEV Technical Supervisor within 15 minutes after the end of the 2nd match.

A minimum break of 45 minutes between the end of the 2nd match and the start of the Golden Match has to be applied.

2.2 ELIGIBILITY

Each NF will participate with 2 teams which must be composed of athletes **not having already qualified quota spots to the Olympic Games for their NFs through the FIVB Olympic Ranking.**

In case one or more are already qualified to the Final NF qualifies the maximum of 2 spots per gender through the Olympic Ranking, its position(s) will be covered:

- In men’s tournament: by the NF(s) with the highest CEV Country Ranking as of 13 June 2016 amongst the 4 NFs ranked 3rd in the Continental Cup Round 4 tournaments. In case of a tie the spot will be allocated to the NF with the higher ranked, not yet qualified team, in the Olympic Ranking as of June 13th 2016.
- In women’s tournament: 1st empty spot by Norway as the organising NF and any additional empty spots by the NF(s) with the highest CEV Country Ranking as of 13 June 2016 amongst the 4 NFs ranked 3rd in the Continental Cup Round 4 tournaments. In case of a tie the spot will be allocated to the NF with the higher ranked, not yet qualified team, in the Olympic Ranking as of 13 June 2016.

In case of any last minute withdrawal the next NF according to the above criteria will be eligible to participate in the gender concerned.

2.3 PARTICIPATING NFs

Following the result of Round 3&4 events, the following NFs are eligible to participate in the CEV Continental Cup Final (in alphabetical order):

MEN

16 NFs (8 NFs as Pool Winners of Round 3 events plus 8 NFs ranked 1st & 2nd in Round 4 events)

 Austria	 Latvia
 Belgium	 Netherlands
 Czech Republic	 Norway
 Estonia	 Poland
 France	 Russia
 Greece	 Spain
 Italy	 Switzerland
 Germany	 Turkey

WOMEN

 Austria	 Lithuania
 Belgium	 Netherlands
 Czech Republic	 Poland
 Finland	 Russia
 France	 Slovakia
 Germany	 Spain
 Greece	 Sweden
 Italy	 Switzerland

3. COMPETITION REGULATIONS

3.1 REGISTRATION OF TEAMS AND PLAYERS

All athletes registered to the event must comply with the requirements laid down by the FIVB Sports Regulations and the relevant CEV regulations, and only those that are not suspended by CEV and/or FIVB are allowed to participate.

Registration for the event is through the standard registration procedure for all CEV sanctioned events using the respective CEV documents and forms, as described in the CEV Competition Regulations and Handbook.

The initial deadline for the Players' Registration is -15 days before the start of the each gender's tournament; this provisional entry list will be reviewed on **Monday, June 13th** following publication of the final FIVB Olympic Ranking, in order to remove those athletes/NFs that are not meeting the eligibility criteria set out in Point 2.2.

3.2 SUBSTITUTION OF PLAYER'S/TEAMS

Players'/Teams can be substituted after the Confirmed List has been published through the respective form (BV-03) and upon approval of the CEV.

Respective proof or documentation must be presented to the CEV before the start of the Preliminary Inquiry of the respective event.

3.3 WITHDRAWAL & LATE ARRIVAL

NFs withdrawing from the competition will be fined 7.500 € per gender according to the CEV procedures. This fine will also be applied in case the withdrawal is due to medical reasons.

Players who do not arrive, or arrive late, for the Preliminary Inquiry and Technical Meeting, and have not received the authorisation of the CEV Technical Supervisor, will be excluded from the event and fined as per the relevant CEV Regulations.

3.4 SEEDING

Norway as hosting NF will be seeded on position 1 (if participating).

Winners of Round 3 events will be grouped as **Group A** and seeded between Seeds 2 and 8 (or 9 in case Norway gets a spot in the women's tournament); according to the entry ranking points of the athletes registered to participate as of 13 June 2016 and following the confirmation of the FIVB Olympic Ranking.

Following seeding of Group A, winners of Round 4 events will be grouped as **Group B** and seeded also following the above seeding criteria.

Following seeding of Group B, the 2nd placed NFs of Round 4 events will be grouped as **Group C** and seeded also following the above seeding criteria.

In case of extra spots to be allocated to NF(s) ranked as 3rd on the Continental Cup Round 4 events and following the seeding of Group C, these will be grouped as **Group D** and will be seeded following the above seeding criteria.

Seed 1	Host NF (in case participating)
Group A	NFs winning Round 3 events (and eligible to participate)
Group B	NFs winning Round 4 events (and eligible to participate)
Group C	Runner up NFs of Round 4 events (and eligible to participate)
Group D	NFs allocated additional spots due to eligibility criteria

The “team 1” from each participating National Federation has to be higher ranked in the CEV Entry Ranking than “team 2”.

In case the two teams of a NF have the same total amount of points, the Head of Delegation of each NF, as identified during the Preliminary Inquiry, endorses in writing to the CEV Technical Supervisor which team will be regarded as “team 1” and which as “team 2”.

3.5 PLAYERS’ UNIFORMS

All players’ tops will be provided by the Organiser.

Participating National Federations have to provide their players with shorts/briefs and cold weather gear, retaining the right to use their own sponsors on them.

In such case, lay-out and sponsoring should follow the CEV Athletes’ Uniforms Guidelines (to be circulated following the review of CEV Marketing Regulations ahead of the 2016 season) and the uniforms must be submitted for approval to the CEV Events Department, at the latest 15 days prior to the event.

In case of delays, non-conformity and not using the approved uniforms during the matches, official warm-up and awarding ceremony, sanctions may be applied.

3.6 RULES OF THE GAME

All matches shall be played according to the FIVB Official Beach Volleyball rules (latest edition).

The provision allowing the presence of a coach inside the field of play in Rounds 1 to 4 of the CEV Continental Cup will not be applied in the CEV Continental Cup Final.

3.7 BOARD, LODGING & LOCAL TRANSPORTATION

All official delegation members will be provided with full board and lodging from the organisers in twin rooms from dinner of the day preceding the 1st competition day until breakfast of the day after their elimination.

As had been the case for all Continental Cup events, each country participates with an official delegation of minimum 5 and maximum 6 members per gender, including 2 teams composed by 2 players each and up to 2 delegation members (NF Delegate, coach, doctor or physiotherapist) that need to be properly and on time accredited by CEV to be regarded as such; out of whom 1 must be identified as Head of Delegation during the Preliminary Inquiry prior to the event.

Additional delegation members may be accredited for the event but board and lodging conditions need to be coordinated directly with the event organisers and are subject to availabilities (contact details will be available in the event’s Practical Info).

Travelling delegations need to inform organisers about their travel schedule through the respective form (BV-04) 7 days before the start of the respective tournament.

4. FURTHER INFORMATION

Information about the competition are circulated to the National Federations using the Official Communications.

Additional information concerning the event will be regularly posted on the CEV Continental Cup section of the CEV website: www.cev.lu; please check there for the Events Practical Info document, news, updates and team lists.

5. CONTACT ADDRESSES

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