



2026 ECVA Senior Men's and Women's Beach Championship

Cul-de-Sac Bay, St. Lucia

May 1 - 3, 2026

COMPETITION REGULATIONS

1. Organiser

- 1.1. Volleyball St. Lucia Inc. (VSL) agrees to comply with the terms and conditions established in these Competition Regulations for the organisation of the **2026 ECVA Senior Men's and Women's Beach Volleyball Zonal Championship**. These are the official statutes of the event.
- 1.2. VSL, affiliated to the Eastern Caribbean Volleyball Association (ECVA) and the NORCECA Volleyball Confederation (NORCECA), will be responsible for the organisation **of the 2026 ECVA Senior Men's and Women's Zonal Championship**, programmed to be held from May 1 - 3, in Cul-de-Sac Bay, Castries, St. Lucia.

1.3. Organisation Addresses & Contacts:

Mr Shayne Felicien

President – VSL

E-mail: saintlucivolleyball@gmail.com

Mobile: 1 (758) 715-7582

Mr Glenn Quinlan

ECVA President

ecvapresident@gmail.com

+1 (869) 662-4567

2. Host City and Competition Venue

2.1. Host City

The 2026 ECVA Senior Men's & Women's Zonal Championship will be held at Cul-de-Sac Bay, in Castries, St. Lucia.

2.2. International Airport of Arrival and Departure

The Airport for the arrival and departure of participating National Teams in the 2026 ECVA Senior Men's and Women's Championship is the:

George F Charles Airport (Code: SLU)

2.3. Accommodation, Meals, and Internal Transportation

Accommodation, meals, and internal transportation for Participating National Teams, Control Committee and Referees will be covered by the National Volleyball Federation and the Host Organising Committee from the day of arrival (29th April) to the date of departure (4th May)

2.3.1. Hotel Accommodation

- 2.3.1.1. Competition Director x Single room
- 2.3.1.2. International Referees x Double rooms
- 2.3.1.3. Participating Teams x Double rooms
- 2.3.1.4. Total rooms to be covered by the host

The hosts are not responsible for the accommodation and meals of persons who are not registered as players or ECVA officials

2.3.2. Meals

The hosts must provide meals to the participating National Teams and ECVA Officials from the day of arrival to the day after the competition as follows: -

Breakfast, lunch, and dinner, according to the International Competition Standards for High-Performance Athletes

During the competition, enough fruit, water, juice, or any other complementary drinks for hydration must be available at the competition courts

2.3.3. Internal Transportation

The host National Federation and/or the Host Organising Committee is responsible for internal transportation for all participating National Teams from the day of their arrival to the day of departure, from the airport of arrival to the hotel and back from the hotel to the airport of departure, on the dates specified earlier. Early arrival and late departure are not the responsibility of the Host Organiser, and the teams that arrive earlier or depart after the days stipulated in the invitation letter for the competition will be responsible for their hotel accommodation and meals cost

3. Statutes & Authority

3.1. Competition Regulations

These Regulations will govern the competition. Any situation not covered by these regulations will be decided in accordance with the NORCECA Regulations and, if necessary, the FIVB Regulations, including its Constitution, Administrative Regulations,

Sport Regulations, Financial Regulations, General Regulations, Complementary Statutes, and Code of Conduct.

3.2. FIVB Official Rules of the Game

This tournament will be played under the FIVB Official Beach Volleyball Rules of the Game in force.

3.3. Control Committee

The competition will be conducted by the Control Committee, which will be designated and appointed by the President of the ECVA.

3.4. VISA information

To facilitate the participation of the Teams, Control Committee Members, and Referees, the Host Organising Committee must, through the relevant governmental authorities, guarantee the entry visas that will permit the participating teams to enter St. Lucia.

4. Events Schedule:

DATE	ACTIVITY
31 March	Registration deadline – 1st team
6 April	Registration deadline – All teams
April 27, 28	Preliminary Inquiries (Virtual)
April 29	Arrival of Competition Director and ECVA Delegate Inspection visits to the competition and training venues, accommodation facilities, security, working offices, meeting rooms, VIS, Press Conference Room, Television transmission and transportation. Competition courts must be ready for inspection on the arrival of the competition director
April 30	Arrival of Referees, Officials and Participating Teams before 7:00 pm
April 30	General Technical Meeting
May 1 – Day 1	Preliminary Round Matches
May 2 – Day 2	2nd day of Competition
May 3 – Day 3	Competition Finals
May 4	Departure of all participating teams, control committee members and referees

5. Participating Teams & Delegation Composition

- 5.1. All affiliated national federations of the ECVA are eligible to participate. A maximum of sixteen (16) teams per gender are eligible, according to the registration order (up to the first 16 registered teams per gender), to participate in the ECVA Beach Volleyball Championship, with a maximum of two teams per gender per NF.

Each NF may register one (1) team per gender by 31 March 2026. Each NF can register an additional team after this date. The host NF can register more teams to complete a total of 16 teams

Each National team delegation will be composed of two (2) players per gender

5.2. Host Federation – Official Scoring Team Designation

Where the Host National Federation is permitted to register more than one (1) team to complete the tournament draw, up to the maximum of sixteen (16) teams, the following shall apply:

1. Prior to the commencement of competition and no later than the conclusion of the Technical Meeting, the Host National Federation shall designate in writing which of its entered teams shall be recognised as its **Official Scoring Team** for the Championship.
2. Only the designated Official Scoring Team shall be eligible to earn ranking points and to contribute to the official country results of the Championship.
3. Any additional Host teams entered to complete the draw shall:
 - Participate fully in the competition,
 - Be eligible for match results, standings, and medals,
 - Not be considered in the determination of official country ranking or allocation of championship points.
4. The designation of the Official Scoring Team shall be final and may not be modified after the start of the first match of the competition.
5. This provision applies irrespective of the final number of teams participating in the Championship.

6. Player's Eligibility

- 6.1. Participating players must be citizens (or permanent residents under the NORCECA Zonal Player Eligibility Regulation) of the country that they represent according to the FIVB Sports and General Regulations. The official document to verify the player's eligibility is their valid passport (Residents also require proof of residency and working permits as outlined in the NORCECA Zonal Player Eligibility Regulation), issued by the competent governmental authorities of their country.

The ECVA Beach Volleyball Women's Championship is exclusively reserved for female-born players

6.2. To be considered for eligibility, a non-national or non-citizen must be a legal resident of the country or territory that they represent. This facility is **ONLY AVAILABLE** for the Overseas Dependent Territories of Great Britain (BER, AGU, MTS, IVB).

6.2.1. Nationals of France and the Netherlands are eligible to participate once they possess a valid French passport (in the former instance) or Dutch passport (in the latter instance) and have not represented any other country or territory in other International, Continental, or Zonal volleyball or beach volleyball competitions.

WE REQUIRE PROOF OF RESIDENCY!!!

6.3. The passports (and related residency documents) of all players must be presented to the Control Committee for verification during the Team's Preliminary Inquiry. Players whose original passport (no passport copies will be accepted) is not presented during the Preliminary Inquiry will not be accredited and therefore will not be eligible to participate in the competition.

7. Registration

7.1. The registration of each National Team must be completed online at www.fivb.org/vis/login.aspx

7.1.1. The payment of the registration fee must be made in United States (US\$) dollars – US\$500.00 per team and can be paid to the ECVA via the following options: -

- International Bank Transfer (not later than 1st April)
- Bank draft couriered to the ECVA
- Cash payment at the Preliminary Inquiry

7.2. Player Final Registration (FIVB/BV O-2 Form)

During the Preliminary Inquiry, the teams must submit to the Control Committee the BV O2 and BV-04 forms

8. Official Rules, Ball & Uniforms

8.1. The 2026 ECVA Senior Men's and Women's Championship will be played under the current FIVB Rules of the Game at the time of the competition. All necessary interpretations are to be clarified during the Referee Clinic and/or the General Technical Meeting prior to the start of the competition

8.2. Official Ball

The official competition game ball will be the MIKASA BV550C. NORCECA will provide the host National Federation with fifty (50) beach volleyballs.

8.3. Uniforms

a. Each participating National Federation has the right to provide its national teams with game uniforms that must comply with the FIVB Beach Volleyball Uniform Guidelines in

force, ensuring that the promotion of sponsors on the uniforms does not conflict with the sponsors of the host country

- b. In case the hosts do not provide uniforms and a conflict arises, the host country shall provide uniforms for teams that need them
- c. Game uniforms are essential for entering the playing field during the pregame warmup, the match, the awards ceremony, the press conference and any other official presentation scheduled for the tournament
- d. The teams whose uniforms are provided by the host country may not make changes in the uniforms or cover the logos of the tournament and sponsors
- e. The uniforms of the teams (Jersey and shorts for men and Bikini-top for women) must be the same colour and style and comply with the uniform regulations of the FIVB for beach volleyball. Men's shorts cannot be baggy; they must be at least 10cm above the knee. And bikinis for the women must be of the same style and colour
- f. The upper part of the uniforms must be numbered with No. 1 or No. 2 and have the country code printed on the front and back
- g. The participating teams have the right to promote their sponsors, including the manufacturer, in the lower part of their uniforms. The location and size of the logos of the sponsors of the teams must be in accordance with the uniform regulations established by the FIVB and NORCECA for beach volleyball players' uniforms
- h. The printing on the uniforms of the participants must be in accordance with the beach uniform regulations guidelines established by NORCECA
- i. It is strictly forbidden to cover the promotion of sponsors or authorised marks with tape or other similar material
- j. If the host NF provides uniforms for the event, the teams are required to wear them during all matches as well as in any other official tournament activity where it is required
- k. The players are allowed to use the following accessories: visor, caps, headbands, glasses, watch, sports beach shoes or socks, knee braces, elbow braces, etc., temporary tattoos or a maximum of one (1) forearm band per arm

The Control Committee has the final word regarding sponsorship issues. All equipment or logos to be used during the competition will be reviewed during the preliminary inquiry, and appropriate measures will be taken.

9. Competition Format and Team Distribution

9.1. General Principles

The host is required to prepare 2 competition courts for both male and female matches for a total of four (4) competition courts

The competition shall be conducted over three (3) days (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday).

All formats shall conclude with:

- Two (2) Semifinals
- One (1) Bronze Medal Match

- One (1) Final (Gold Medal Match)

Medals shall be awarded solely based on the Bronze Medal Match and the Final.

Where possible, teams shall not be scheduled in consecutive hourly match slots to preserve the minimum rest standard.

Seeding shall be based on the valid ECVA/NORCECA ranking applicable to the event.

9.2. Pool Ranking and Tie-Breaking

(Applicable to All Round Robin Formats)

9.2.1. Ranking Within a Pool

In all round robin pool formats, teams shall be ranked according to the following criteria, applied in the order listed:

1. Matches won
2. Match points
 - Two (2) match points are awarded to the winner of a match
 - One (1) match point is awarded to the loser of a match
3. Set ratio (total sets won divided by total sets lost)
4. Point ratio (total points scored divided by total points conceded)
5. Head-to-head result between tied teams

If two (2) teams remain tied after applying criteria 1–4, the head-to-head result between them shall determine the higher rank.

If three (3) or more teams remain tied after applying criteria 1–4, a new classification shall be established based solely on matches played among the tied teams. The same criteria shall be reapplied exclusively to those matches.

If a tie persists, the ranking shall be determined by a drawing of lots conducted by the Control Committee.

9.2.2. Determination of Best Third-Placed Teams

Where the format requires the selection of the best third-placed teams across multiple pools, ranking shall be determined by applying the following criteria in order:

1. Matches won
2. Match points
3. Set ratio
4. Point ratio
5. Drawing of lots (if required)

Where pools contain different numbers of teams, only the results against teams ranked 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in each pool shall be considered for comparison purposes.

9.3. Four (4) Teams

One (1) pool of four (4) teams.

Double Round Robin.

Final pool ranking determines seeds 1–4.

Semifinals:

1 vs 4

2 vs 3

Bronze Medal Match.

Final.

9.4. Five (5) Teams

One (1) pool of five (5) teams.

Double Round Robin.

Final pool ranking determines seeds 1–4.

Semifinals:

1 vs 4

2 vs 3

Bronze Medal Match.

Final.

The 5th-ranked team is eliminated following the pool phase.

9.5. Six (6) Teams

One (1) pool of six (6) teams.

Single Round Robin.

Final pool ranking determines seeds 1–4.

Semifinals:

1 vs 4

2 vs 3

Bronze Medal Match.

Final.

9.6. Seven (7) Teams

One (1) pool of seven (7) teams.
Single Round Robin.

Final pool ranking determines seeds 1–4.

Semifinals:

1 vs 4

2 vs 3

Bronze Medal Match.

Final.

9.7. Eight (8) Teams

One (1) pool of eight (8) teams.
Single Round Robin.

Final pool ranking determines seeds 1–4.

Semifinals:

1 vs 4

2 vs 3

Bronze Medal Match.

Final.

Note on Host Team Seeding (Articles 9.3–9.7)

In single-pool round-robin formats, every team plays every other team. There is no structural bracket advantage arising from pool placement.

Accordingly, the Host team shall be seeded strictly in accordance with its ECVA/NORCECA ranking position. No artificial elevation of seeding shall be applied.

See also Article 5.2 and Article 10.

9.8. Nine (9) Teams

Three (3) pools of three (3) teams.
Single Round Robin within each pool.

Advancement:

Top two (2) teams from each pool (6 teams), plus the two (2) best third-placed teams →
Quarterfinals (8 teams).

Quarterfinals.

Semifinals.

Bronze Medal Match.

Final.

9.9. Ten (10) Teams

Two (2) pools of five (5) teams.
Single Round Robin within each pool.

The top four (4) teams from each pool advance to the Quarterfinals.

Quarterfinals.
Semifinals.
Bronze Medal Match.
Final.

9.10. Eleven (11) Teams

Three (3) pools:
Two (2) pools of four (4),
One (1) pool of three (3).

Single Round Robin within each pool.

Advancement:
Top two (2) teams from each pool (6 teams), plus the two (2) best third-placed teams →
Quarterfinals (8 teams).

Quarterfinals.
Semifinals.
Bronze Medal Match.
Final.

9.11. Twelve (12) Teams

Three (3) pools of four (4) teams.
Single Round Robin within each pool.

Advancement:
Top two (2) teams from each pool, plus the two (2) best third-placed teams → Quarterfinals
(8 teams).

Quarterfinals.
Semifinals.
Bronze Medal Match.
Final.

9.12. Thirteen (13) Teams

Four (4) pools:
One (1) pool of four (4),
Three (3) pools of three (3).
Single Round Robin within each pool.

The top two (2) teams from each pool advance to the Quarterfinals.

Quarterfinals.

Semifinals.

Bronze Medal Match.

Final.

9.13. Fourteen (14) Teams

Four (4) pools:

Two (2) pools of four (4),

Two (2) pools of three (3).

Single Round Robin within each pool.

The top two (2) teams from each pool advance to the Quarterfinals.

Quarterfinals.

Semifinals.

Bronze Medal Match.

Final.

9.14. Fifteen (15) Teams

Four (4) pools:

Three (3) pools of four (4),

One (1) pool of three (3).

Single Round Robin within each pool.

The top two (2) teams from each pool advance to the Quarterfinals.

Quarterfinals.

Semifinals.

Bronze Medal Match.

Final.

9.15. Sixteen (16) Teams – Modified Pool Play

Four (4) pools of four (4) teams.

Modified Pool Play (Placement Format):

1. 1 vs 4

2. 2 vs 3

3. Winners play to determine 1st and 2nd

4. Losers play to determine 3rd and 4th

Final pool ranking is determined exclusively by the results of the placement matches within each pool.

The top three (3) teams from each pool advance (12 teams).

Pool winners (1st placed) receive a bye to the Quarterfinals.

Qualification Round:

A2 vs B3

B2 vs A3

C2 vs D3

D2 vs C3

Quarterfinals.

Semifinals.

Bronze Medal Match.

Final.

The participation and ranking eligibility of multiple Host teams shall be governed by Article 5.2.

10. Team Distribution and Seeding

10.1. Seeding Principle

Participating National Teams shall be seeded according to their position in the NORCECA Beach Volleyball ranking as of January 1 of the competition year. The ECVA shall use the applicable NF ranking.

Where a National Federation registers two teams, the Federation must designate and register Team 1 and Team 2 prior to the Technical Meeting.

10.2. Multi-Pool Formats

In all multi-pool formats:

- If the Host team is ranked 1st–4th, it shall be placed as A1.
- If the Host team is ranked 5th or lower, it shall be placed as the first seed of the last pool in the draw (e.g., D1 in a four-pool format, C1 in a three-pool format, or B1 in a two-pool format).

The remaining teams shall be distributed using the serpentine system based on their rankings.

10.3. Single-Pool Formats

In single-pool formats, the Host team shall retain its seeding position strictly based on its ECVA/NORCECA ranking. No special positional allocation shall apply.

11. Financial Responsibilities

11.1. The following are the responsibilities of participating National Federations:

- a) Payment of Entry Fee of US\$500.00 (Five hundred dollars)
- b) To present the following documents, team gear and equipment during the Preliminary Inquiry
- c) BV-02 form
- d) BV-04 form
- e) Original passports of the players
- f) Country flag (4 feet x 6 feet)
- g) Country National Anthem
- h) Team uniforms
- i) Team gear and accessories

11.2. The following are the responsibilities of the ECVA:

- a) Airfare: The ECVA will be responsible for covering the payment of the airfare (economy class) for Control Committee Members.
- b) Payment of Per Diem to Control Committee Members according to what has been established by ECVA, as follows:

US\$100.00 (One Hundred Dollars) per day, one day before and one day after the competition for the Delegate, Press Officer, Photographer, and International Referee.

US\$100.00 (One Hundred Dollars) per day, one day before and one day after the competition for the Tournament Director and VIS Supervisor.

NOTE 1: The payment of Per Diem for the Members of the Control Committee and participating Referees must be covered before the conclusion of the participating team's Preliminary Inquiry of the competition.

12. Complaints and Sanctions

12.1. Complaints:

- a) All complaints must be presented in writing to the Control Committee. The procedure established to present a complaint must be in accordance with the FIVB Sports Regulations. Complaints will be resolved in accordance with the FIVB/NORCECA General, Sports, and Rules of the Games in force.
- b) Complaints related to a technical issue (violation of the FIVB Rules of the Game) must be resolved by the acting referee in the match and, if necessary, by the Control Committee of the match where the violation of the Rules of the Game has been verified. The acting match Jury President and the Refereeing Delegate may intervene when a technical violation of the Rules of the Game is verified to resolve the situation and to ensure the proper continuation of the match
- c) All complaints and appeals not related to a technical issue and/or violation of the Rules of the Game must be presented in writing to the Control Committee President within 60 minutes after the conclusion of the match. Complaints and appeals must be presented with a deposit of US\$500.00 (Five Hundred Dollars) cash; if the

complaint and/or appeal proceeds, the deposit will be reimbursed. The Control Committee President must announce the verdict within 4 hours after the presentation of the complaint and/or appeal.

12.2. Sanctions:

For this competition, the following sanctions have been established:

a) Teams that arrive at the tournament without being duly registered will be sanctioned US\$1,000.00

b) Teams that do not participate after being duly registered will be sanctioned US\$1,000.00

c) Withdrawal of teams within 3 days of the start of the tournament – US\$1,000.00 sanction

13. Referees

13.1. The ECVA President will designate the referees

13.2. Other Officials

13.2.1. According to the FIVB General Regulations and considering that this event is a Zonal Event approved by NORCECA, the Control Committee (Refereeing Sub-Commission and Appeal Sub-Commission) will be designated by the ECVA President or his Representative.

13.2.2. Line Judges, Scorekeepers, Statisticians, VIS, Ball Retrievers, Sweepers, Scoreboard Operators, Announcers, and other supporting personnel shall be presented by the representative of the host National Volleyball Federation to the Control Committee President and/or his/her Representative for approval

14. Training Facilities

14.1. The host NF must provide training facilities with appropriate conditions for the daily training of the participating teams from their arrival until the end of the competition

14.2. Between two consecutive matches, there must be a minimum of 60 minutes of rest or recovery, except in extreme circumstances (force majeure or atmospheric conditions), in which case it may be reduced to a minimum of 30 minutes

15. Security

The host National Federation and/or the Organising Committee must guarantee the security of all participating team delegations, and officials, along with any equipment, from their arrival until their departure, including in the hotel, at main and training venues, during official matches, and on internal transportation.

16. Accreditation

The host National Federation must provide the corresponding accreditation to all participating teams, ECVA, Referees, National and International Technical and Support

Staff. Accreditations must be designed according to the standards established by NORCECA and must include the logos of the ECVA, the host NF, the title of the competition, unique identification number, photograph, and function of the accreditation holder, as well as the NORCECA official sponsors, MIKASA and Mizuno

FIVB/NORCECA/ECVA This accreditation is reserved strictly for FIVB/NORCECA and ECVA officials.

CC This accreditation is reserved for Control Committee members assigned to the competition.

NF This accreditation is reserved for the members of the Executive & Board of Administration of the Host National Federation.

OC This accreditation is reserved for the members of the Organising Committee of the host country of the event.

G This accreditation is reserved for all governmental officials of the host country of the event.

D This accreditation is reserved for accredited Diplomats of the host country of the event.

VIP This accreditation is reserved for special guests.

TP This accreditation is reserved for technical personnel and staff assigned to specific areas of the event's organisation. (VIS, Statisticians, Line Judges, Scorekeepers, and Scoreboard Operators)

SP This accreditation is reserved for support personnel assigned to specific areas to support the organisation of the event. (Ball Retrievers, Sweepers, Flag Holders, Announcers, and venue staff).

P This accreditation is strictly reserved for accredited Journalists, Press, Host Broadcasters, International Press Agencies and Local Press Agencies.

A This accreditation is strictly reserved for participating players. (Athletes Only). Players' accreditation must include the player's competition number, accreditation number, and the anti-doping test control code for the Anti-Doping Protocol, as required by the WADA/FIVB Protocol Regulations.

TS This accreditation is strictly reserved for the staff of participating teams. (Team Staff: Team Manager, Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Registered FIVB Team Doctor, Physiotherapist and Team Statisticians).

S This accreditation is reserved exclusively for security personnel.

R This accreditation is exclusively reserved for participating Referees.

MD: This accreditation applies to the medical personnel assigned to the event.

17. Medical Services

17.1 The host Organising Committee will provide first aid medical services during the competition.

17.2 All team delegations shall be responsible for their own medical expenses. It is recommended that all participating teams provide their own international medical insurance.

18. Awards:

The first three (3) ranked teams will be awarded as follows:

1st Place: Gold Medals

2nd Place: Silver Medals

3rd Place: Bronze Medals