

## VOLLEYBALL AUSTRALIA

### BEACH VOLLEYBALL SELECTION POLICY 2017-2018

12 May 2017

#### Preamble

- A. This Selection Policy applies to Men's and Women's Beach Volleyball National Teams for 2017 and 2018. It will apply to the following selection decisions:
1. Decision as to which teams/athletes are entered into FIVB World Tour and Asian Tour events.
  2. Selection of teams/athletes to compete in the 2017 FIVB Beach Volleyball Senior World Championships.
  3. Selection of teams/athletes to compete in 2017 and 2018 AVC Asian Beach Volleyball Championships.
  4. Selection of teams/athletes to be nominated to the CGA to represent Australia in the 2018 Commonwealth Games, and to achieve podium performances at the 2018 Commonwealth Games.
- B. The Policy will be applied by the VA Selection Committee, which will make recommendations to the VA board for approval.

A separate Selection Committee will be appointed for each gender consisting of:

- High Performance Director (Chair)
- VA Technical Director/Head Coach
- Senior Coaches (Men and Women), VA Beach Volleyball
- One or two other person(s) with international Beach Volleyball experience, but unconnected to the teams/athletes standing for selection.

If a member of the Selection Committee has a direct coaching relationship or other close connection with a team or athlete being considered for selection, that person will disclose the relationship and may or may not take part in the selection decision concerning that team or athlete, at the Chair's discretion.

- C. The criteria listed below will be applied in each selection decision. However, the weight given to each criterion will be totally at the discretion of the Selection Committee, and the weight may vary dependent on the selection decision being considered, and the timing of that decision.
- D. The dates for the making of the various selection decisions are listed below as indicative and these may change at the recommendation of the Selection Committee.

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- E. The Selection Committee may propose any amendments to this Policy to the VA Board at any time. Such amendments are only valid when adopted by the VA Board (and endorsed by the CGA, if they relate to the Commonwealth Games).
- F. This Policy will constitute the 2018 Australian Commonwealth Games Team Nomination Criteria – Beach Volleyball and will be read in conjunction with the 2018 Australian Commonwealth Games Team Selection Criteria – Beach Volleyball. In case of inconsistency, these Selection Criteria will prevail over this Policy.

### Selection Criteria

In making the selection decisions referred to in A above, the Selection Committee will take into account the following Selection Criteria:

- VA, FIVB and CGA eligibility criteria.
- Relevant FIVB Rankings at the time of making the Selection Decision.
- AVC Beach Volleyball Rankings and Australian Beach Volleyball Rankings
- Individual and team international results in 2016, 2017 and 2018 as appropriate.
- The perceived ability of the team/athletes to achieve the best results in the event concerned in the Selection Decision.
- For the Commonwealth Games, the performance of the team/athletes against teams from highly ranked Commonwealth nations.
- The perceived ability of the team/athletes to medal at the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games.
- The team's/athlete's availability to compete in and prepare for the Commonwealth Games in particular; e.g. availability to train at the national training centre as required.
- The team's/athlete's commitment to the 2018 Commonwealth Games campaign, and the 2020 Olympic Games, and to following the national direction as specified by the VA Technical Director/Head Coach and the HPD.
- The perceived potential for development as individuals for the 2020 or 2024 Olympics and 2022 Commonwealth Games
- Timely provision to the VA HPD and TD/Head Coach of the team's/athlete's performance plan, injury and fitness and competition readiness status, and their commitment to performance monitoring and reporting.
- Attendance at national camps as notified by the VA HPD and TD/Head Coach.
- Domestic Tour results in 2017 and 2018 will be taken into account at the Selection Committee's discretion. The Committee may determine that National Tour events in late 2017/early 2018 may be used to make any final decision, provided advance notice of this has been given to the teams/athletes concerned.
- The Selection Committee may also determine that participation and results of a designated selection tournament, or play-off may be used to make any final decision, provided advance notice of this has been given to the teams/athletes concerned.
- AWE categorization of the players.
- Injury status and competition readiness.



## Selection Timelines

The following are indicative dates for the Selection Decisions mentioned above. They may change as circumstances, entry closing dates and calendars change.

FIVB World Tour and AVC Asian Tour Events	On or before 35 days before the event, unless special circumstances apply
2017 FIVB Beach Volleyball Senior World Championships	On or before the deadline named by the FIVB. (5 June 2017)
Asian Senior Beach Volleyball Championships	On or before 35 days before the Championships
2018 Commonwealth Games	On or before 19 February 2018

## Eligibility Criteria

In order to be chosen by VA as a member of a National Beach Volleyball team to compete in International events (including International events held in Australia) or to be nominated for the Commonwealth Games, each athlete must:

- a) have a current and valid Australian Passport;
- b) not have represented another country in any sport for the preceding two years;
- c) be a registered and financial member of a State or Territory volleyball governing body that is a Member of VA (as the term "Member" is defined in the Constitution); and
- d) be compliant with all applicable anti-doping policies, including those of FIVB, the AOC, CGA and VA; and
- e) be free of any injury or illness which will or has the potential to impair, inhibit or prevent the athlete from performing at the requisite level;
- f) be compliant with any eligibility guidelines published from time to time by the FIVB, AVC, CGF or the CGA, including rules and guidelines which apply to eligibility to represent Australia in the sport of volleyball;
- g) in the case of the Commonwealth Games, have not by their actions or omissions brought themselves or their sport into disrepute, and sign the 2018 CGA Team Agreement.

## Appeals

The sole grounds upon which an athlete may appeal his or her non-selection in a Team or for an event are:

1. The Selection Policy has not been properly followed or implemented.
2. The athlete was prevented from having a reasonable opportunity to meet the Selection Criteria.
3. There was no material on which the decision of the athlete's non-selection could reasonably be based.
4. The nomination decision was affected by bias.



Any appeal from an athlete against his or non-selection by VA will be resolved according to the following procedure:

- a) The appeal will be heard by the VA Appeal Tribunal (**Tribunal**).
- b) The appellant must be the athlete who has not been selected.
- c) The appellant must give written notice, including grounds of his or her appeal to VA's CEO within 48 hours of the being informed of the Selection Committee's decision.
- d) The Tribunal will comprise the following persons, as appointed by the VA Board:
  - o A barrister or solicitor who will act as Chair;
  - o A person with a thorough knowledge of the sport and who preferably has had recent international competition experience in the sport; and
  - o One other person of experience and skills suitable to the function of the Tribunal.
- e) No person is eligible to be appointed to the Tribunal if he or she is a member of the VA Board or the Selection Committee, or if by reason of his or her relationship with the appellant or any member of the Board or Selection Committee he or she would be reasonably considered to be other than impartial.
- f) The Tribunal will convene a hearing as soon as possible after the submission of the grounds of appeal. The Tribunal is not bound by the rules of evidence but must observe the principles of natural justice and procedural fairness.
- g) Prior to the hearing, the Selection Committee will provide the Tribunal and the appellant with a written statement as to the reasons for the decision against which the appeal is made.
- h) The Tribunal will give its decision as soon as practicable after the hearing and may provide the VA CEO and the appellant with a statement of the reasons for its decision.
- i) The VA CEO or the Chair of the Tribunal may impose any other procedure for the appeal which, in either's belief, is fair and appropriate in the circumstances.

The decision of the Tribunal will be final and binding on the parties and it is agreed that neither party will institute or maintain proceedings in any court or tribunal other than the Tribunal, except in the case of Commonwealth Games selection, where an appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport is available on the grounds mentioned above.

Failure to observe the above time limits will render any appeal a nullity provided that an athlete may apply to the VA CEO for an extension of time in which to commence an appeal. The VA CEO has discretion whether to grant an extension of time, although shall only do so in circumstances where the delay is caused by extenuating circumstances outside the control of the athlete concerned.