



# CHAPTER

## 6

### FIVB HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Volleyball History

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FIVB Volleyball Properties

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FIVB Beach Volleyball Properties



- = FIVB
- = Volleyball
- = Beach volleyball

**1895**

- Volleyball is born at the YMCA in Holyoke, Massachusetts, by William G. Morgan, a New Yorker born in 1870.



William Morgan (far left, back row) with the 1895 Holyoke YMCA team in Massachusetts, USA

**1896**

- Another American, Alfred T. Halstead, proposes "volleyball" as a more appropriate name for the sport instead of the original "Mintonette."

**1898**

- Canada adopts volleyball for its recreational programs.

**1908**

- Franklin H. Brown introduces volleyball in Japan.

**1910**

- Elwood S. Brown introduces volleyball in the Philippines and Dr J. Howard Croker introduces volleyball in China.

**1913**

- Volleyball is adopted at the first Far Eastern Games in Manila, Philippines.

**1915**

- Beach volleyball, a descendant of volleyball, begins life on the beaches of Waikiki beach in Hawaii, USA.

**1918**

- Introduction of six-a-side volleyball.

**1922**

- The three hits per side rule is adopted.
- The first known volleyball and basketball association is created in Czechoslovakia.

**1928**

- The American Volleyball Association is created. The first USA National Volleyball Championships are played at the Brooklyn Central YMCA.

**1929**

- Men's volleyball is adopted at the second Central American and Caribbean Games in Havana, Cuba.

**1930**

- The first two-man beach volleyball game is played in Santa Monica, California.

**1933**

- Women's volleyball is played at the Central American and Caribbean Games in San Salvador.

**1934**

- The first volleyball international committee is created under the Field Handball Federation.

**1946**

- Poland, France, Czechoslovakia, USA, USSR and Romania set up the first Autonomous Volleyball Commission.

**1947**

- The Federation Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB) is founded by 14 National Federations in Paris and elects Paul Libaud as its first President. The founders are USA, France, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Egypt, Italy, Netherlands, Belgium, Portugal, Romania, Turkey, Brazil, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

**1948**

- First Men's European Championships are held in Rome, Italy.

**1949**

- The International Olympic Committee adopts volleyball as a non Olympic sport.
- First Men's World Championships in Prague.
- First Women's European Championships in Prague.
- Introduction of the three player attack and the penetration of the back court setter.

**1951**

- Hands can pass over the net under certain conditions (block).

**1952**

- First Women's World Championship held in Moscow.

**1955**

- Volleyball enters the program of the second Pan American Games in Mexico City.

**1956**

- Men's and Women's World Championships are held together for the first time in Paris with 24 Men's and 17 Women's teams.

**1957**

- IOC session in Sofia recognizes volleyball as an Olympic sport and FIVB as the sole worldwide volleyball governing body in all its disciplines on September 24.

**1961**

- IOC sessions and Japan OCOG in Athens add volleyball to the 1964 Olympic Games in Tokyo.

**1964**

- First Olympic volleyball competitions for men and women are held in Tokyo.
- Adoption of the new blocking rule (hands over the net, block multiple contacts allowed).

**1965**

- The first Men's World Cup is held in Warsaw, Poland.

**1973**

- The first Women's World Cup is held in Uruguay.

**1974**

- Men's and Women's World Championships are broadcast on live TV from Mexico to Japan and many other countries for the first time.

**1975**

- Africa Women's Championships start in Dakar, Senegal.

**1976**

- Olympic Games are played in Montreal for the first time with the three-ball system and three hits after the block are permitted.
- Width of the net is reduced to nine metres.

**1977**

- First Junior (Under -21) Men's and Women's World Championships are held in Brazil.

**1980**

- First FIVB Rules of the Game are adopted in French and Spanish at Moscow Congress.

**1985**

- The first major Volleyball World Plan is approved to bring volleyball into the professional sports arena.
- The first World Gala is held in Beijing and Shanghai with China Women's Olympic champions facing the All Stars World team.

**1989**

- The first Club World Championship for men takes place in Parma, Italy while the Boys' and Girls' Youth World Championships makes their debut in United Arab Emirates and Brazil respectively.
- The Beach Volleyball FIVB World Series for men is launched.

**1990**

- First Men's World League with eight countries and \$1 million in prize money.

- = FIVB
- = Volleyball
- = Beach volleyball

**1991**

- The first women's Club World Championship is held in São Paulo, Brazil.

**1992**

- Beach Volleyball FIVB World Series is recreated as a World Tour for both men and women to determine the world champions (men and women). Events are held in Japan, Puerto Rico, Brazil, Italy and Australia.

**1993**

- First Grand Champions Cup for men and women is held in Japan.
- The first Women's World Grand Prix with eight countries and \$1 million in prize money is held in eight Asian cities.
- IOC session in Monte Carlo includes beach volleyball into the 1996 Olympic Games program as a full medal discipline for women (16 pairs) and men (24 pairs).

**1994**

- The ball can touch any part of the body including the feet. The service zone is extended to the full outline.

**1995**

- Volleyball celebrates its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**1996**

- Beach volleyball makes its debut in the Atlanta Olympics.

**1997**

- The first Beach Volleyball World Championships in its current (double gender) format are held in Los Angeles, USA with total prize money of \$600,000 for both genders.
- The eighth edition of the World League increases its Prize Money to \$8 million.

**1998**

- The Rally Point System and Libero are officially accepted and played at the World Championships in Tokyo, following the 26<sup>th</sup> FIVB World Congress.

**2000**

- The Rally Point System is extended to beach volleyball. The rule allowing play to continue when a serve hits the net and continues to the opposition court is adopted.
- Karch Kiraly of USA, Lorenzo Bernardi of Italy and three-time Olympic champion Regla Torres of Cuba are celebrated as best players of the century.

**2001**

- The Beach Volleyball Junior World Championships make their debut in Le Lavandou, France.

**2002**

- The FIVB World Congress in Buenos Aires, Argentina introduces height limit competitions (185cm for men, 175cm for women).
- The Beach Volleyball Youth World Championships are held for the first time in Xylokastr, Greece.

**2009**

- The FIVB Men's Club World Championship returns to the international volleyball calendar after last featuring in 1992.

**2010**

- Volleyball is a huge success at the inaugural Youth Olympic Games in Singapore.
- The FIVB Women's Club World Championship also makes its return to the calendar for the first time since 1994 following the successful reincarnation of the men's event a year earlier.
- The Continental Cup makes its debut as a new qualifying event for beach volleyball at the London 2012 Olympic Games with record breaking levels of participation.

**2011**

- Following extensive trialing a new point allocation system was confirmed by the FIVB Board of Administration for all competitions where matches which are won 3-0 or 3-1 will see the winners come away with three points and the losers zero and those won 3-2 mean the winners come away with two points and the losers one. In the event of a tie in the group, the teams will be separated on set ratio as opposed to points ratio as in the past. Additionally, in the case of a tie in the number of points, sides are divided by number of wins, then set ratio (as opposed to points ratio in the past), then point ratio.

**2012**

- The FIVB amends its regulations for uniform choices for female players, giving athletes three extra choices. Players can wear shorts of a maximum length of 3cm above the knee with sleeved or sleeveless tops or a full body suit. This is to respect the customs and/or religious beliefs of countries. Previously there were two uniform choices for female players, a one-piece bathing suit or a bikini with a maximum side width of 7cm. A full body suit could also be used under the bikini in cold weather.

**2013**

- The FIVB includes a new championship to the age-group tournaments – the Under 23 Volleyball and Beach Volleyball Championships – in order to reduce the gap between age-group and senior level volleyball. It is also the first year that the Video Challenge System is used, in the World League and World Grand Prix Finals.
- The Beach Volleyball World Cup Final brings to a close the incredibly successful first Continental Cup cycle, featuring the Continental champions and countries who qualified teams to the Olympic Games.
- In a new and enhanced World Tour, Grand Slams are clearly established as the core events while the number of Open events is expanded for the year, giving teams more opportunities to participate.
- 21 points per set rule is tested at the FIVB Volleyball U23 Men's World Championship.

**2014**

- The FIVB World League and World Grand Prix are expanded once again with both tournaments including 28 teams for the first time illustrating volleyball's growing global appeal.
- The 34<sup>th</sup> FIVB World Congress is held in Sardinia, Italy with a record 210 national federations represented.
- The FIVB Volleyball Men's World Championship Poland 2014 are a huge success, with 62,000 fans attending the first match in Warsaw Stadium. The hosts go on to win their first crown in 40 years.
- The United States win the FIVB Volleyball Women's World Championship Italy 2014 in Milan later the same year, with legendary volleyball and beach volleyball star Karch Kiraly leading them as coach.
- The challenge system is rolled out and included in all FIVB volleyball tournaments.
- The FIVB turns a corner in terms of innovation, promising to focus more on making the game more modern through the use of technology.

**2015**

- The FIVB Volleyball World League continues to grow and includes 32 teams for the first time in the tournament's history. The FIVB Volleyball World Grand Prix includes 28 teams with the Finals taking place in USA for the first time.
- The FIVB Beach Volleyball World Championships The Netherlands is a monumental success, setting a new benchmark for the tournament going forward. Four cities – The Hague, Amsterdam, Apeldoorn and Rotterdam – host the early stages before the competition reached its climax in The Hague. Over 100,000 people attended matches across the Netherlands, with the tournament also introducing a number of innovations, including the challenge system for the first time.
- A new partnership with Beach Major Series and Red Bull leads to three Majors as well as the first ever Swatch FIVB World Tour Finals in Fort Lauderdale, illustrating the continued growth of beach volleyball in both a sporting and branding context.
- The FIVB Volleyball World Cup returns to Japan, beginning the Rio 2016 Olympic Games qualification process.





**FIVB Volleyball World Championships**

As the original FIVB tournament, the Men’s and Women’s World Championships are staged every four years and are the most prestigious in international volleyball. The first FIVB Volleyball World Championships were organised in 1949 for men and 1952 for women and have remained the biggest event in volleyball, alongside the Olympic Games. A record 279 teams participated in the qualification process for the FIVB Volleyball World Championships in 2014. This total, coming from 166 national federations across the five FIVB confederations, represents an increase of 65 teams from the previous best of 214 teams from 119 federations for the 2010 World Championships (compared with 102 in 2006, 72 in 2002 and 63 in 1998). The FIVB Volleyball Men’s World Championship Poland 2014 saw the host country seal their second crown with victory over Brazil in the final. Germany completed the podium after defeating European rivals France in the bronze medal match to take their first podium place as a unified country at the tournament. USA clinched their first ever gold medal win in the tournament with a victory over China in the final of the FIVB Volleyball Women’s World Championship Italy 2014 while Brazil held off hosts Italy for bronze. The next FIVB Volleyball World Championships will take place in

2018 with Italy and Bulgaria hosting the men’s edition and Japan the women’s.

**FIVB Volleyball World Cup**

The road to the Olympic Games commences with the FIVB Volleyball World Cup, the quadrennial round robin event that showcases the very best 12 men’s and 12 women’s national teams in the world. Japan and television partner Fuji TV host an event that grips the nation and produces incredible television ratings. Traditionally, the top three teams in the men’s and women’s competitions at the World Cup had earned berths in the Olympic Games volleyball tournaments. However, the 2015 edition offered that reward to the top two sides only. USA claimed their first FIVB Volleyball Men’s World Cup in 2015 with Italy finishing second and Poland third. China added a fourth title to their name in the women’s contest after success in 1981, 1985 and 2003 as Serbia grabbed silver and USA bronze. Poland hosted the first World Cup in 1965 for men only before Uruguay hosted the first World Cup for women in 1973. Following the first two editions for men and the first edition for women Japan gave new life to the Men’s and Women’s World Cups by staging the third and second editions respectively in 1977 before going on to host every edition since.

**FIVB Volleyball Grand Champions Cup**

The FIVB Volleyball Grand Champions Cup is played every four years in the year following the summer Olympic Games and preceding the World Championships. The tournament, first held in 1993 has been hosted by Japan on every occasion and features six teams in both the men’s and women’s competition. In 2013 the teams comprised the hosts, the four 2013 Continental Champions from continents whose teams reached the highest ranking in the preceding Olympic Games and a wild card team, jointly selected by the FIVB, the Japan Volleyball Association (JVA) and the Nippon television Network Corporation (NTV). The sixth edition of the FIVB Volleyball Women’s World Grand Champions Cup was held in the cities of Nagoya and Tokyo in Japan and was followed by the FIVB Volleyball Men’s World Grand Champions Cup in the cities of Kyoto and Tokyo. In the men’s competition Brazil beat out the competition in the round robin tournament for the gold medal, ahead of silver and bronze medallists, Russia and Italy. Brazil then went on to win the top spot in the women’s competition, making them the first women’s team ever to triumph twice in the World Grand Champions Cup, while USA finished in second place and hosts Japan in third.

**FIVB Volleyball World League**

Volleyball’s flagship annual event for men started by the FIVB in 1990, is a spectacular showcase for the crème de la crème of men’s volleyball. For the first time in the history of the competition, the FIVB’s premier annual men’s tournament will feature a record 36 teams, a further expansion from the 32 teams that took part in 2015. The 2016 season will be shorter to accommodate the countries participating at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, running from June 16-July 17. The Intercontinental Round will adopt the same format as the FIVB Volleyball World Grand Prix with three different cities per group hosting matches in each of the three weeks. A total of twelve teams will play in Group 1 including France, Serbia and USA who took, first second and third place respectively in the 2015 Finals. They will be joined by Poland, Brazil, Italy, Iran, Australia, Russia and wild cards, Argentina, Belgium and Bulgaria. The Group 1 Finals will be held in Poland from July 13-17 with the top five ranked sides plus the hosts battling for gold. Group 2 is composed of the 12 teams ranked 13<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> in 2015. They are: Japan, the Netherlands, Canada, Finland, Czech Republic, Cuba, Korea, Portugal, Egypt, Turkey, Slovakia and China. Group 1 and 2 matches will begin on the weekend of June 16 and run through to July 3. The Group 2 Finals





will then be held in Portugal from July 9-10 where the top three ranked sides join the hosts in the Final Four. A further twelve teams will compete in Group 3. Slovenia qualified through the 2015 European League while Chinese Taipei, Germany and Qatar join 2015 sides Greece, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Montenegro, Puerto Rico, Spain, Tunisia, and Venezuela. The pool round matches for Group 3 will take place over two weekends: on June 17-19 and June 24-26. The twelve teams in the group will play in pools of four teams each with the top three sides joining hosts Germany at the Finals in Frankfurt. France made an impact in 2015 as they rose through the ranks by winning the Group 2 and Group 1 Finals. Laurent Tillie's side swept their Group 2 matches and eventually won the Group 1 Final with an overwhelming performance. The team later completed their season with a EuroVolley gold medal. Over 420 players and a total of 29 cities featured during the tournament, with almost 700,000 spectators attending 174 matches.

**FIVB Volleyball World Grand Prix**

The World Grand Prix featured eight teams in its debut season in 1993 and from 1995 to 2002, while 12 teams were in action in 1994 and from 2003 to 2010. Sixteen teams took part in the 2011 and 2012 editions with this increasing to 20 in 2013 and finally a ground-breaking 24 teams in 2014, continuing in 2015 and 2016. This year's edition of the FIVB Volleyball World Grand Prix – the FIVB's signature annual women's tournament – will take place in the immediate build-up to the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. It will also overlap with the 2016 edition of the FIVB Volleyball World League, which will take place from June 16-July 17. The 2016 edition of the World Grand Prix will be played over a period of just six weeks from June 3 through to July 10. The Preliminary Round in Groups 2 and 3 will take place over two weeks from June 3-12. The Group 2 and 3 Finals will follow on the week end of June 18-19. The Group 1 Preliminary Round will be played out over three weeks from June 9-26. The Group 1 Finals will take place from July 6-10. Six teams will play the Group 1 Finals, split into two pools of three. In a departure from last year's format, pool play will be followed by semifinal and final. The format of the Group 2 and 3 Finals remains unchanged. The three best teams from the preliminary round rankings will be joined by the competition hosts - in



each case, the four teams will play semifinals and final. Group 1 includes 2015 World Grand Prix winners USA and 10-time winners Brazil, and a stellar cast of top-ranked teams including Russia, China, Italy, Japan, Germany, Serbia, Thailand, Belgium and Turkey. The Netherlands complete the 12-team composition after they were promoted from Group 2. The six-team World Grand Prix Finals will take place in Bangkok, featuring the top five teams in Group 1 and hosts Thailand. Group 2 includes the Dominican Republic (relegated from Group 1), Poland, the Czech Republic, Puerto Rico, Bulgaria, Canada, Argentina, Kenya (promoted from Group 3). The Finals will take place in Varna, Bulgaria. Group 3 will feature Croatia (relegated from Group 2), Peru, Colombia, Australia, Cuba, Kazakhstan, Algeria, Mexico. Almaty, Kazakhstan will host the Finals. USA became the first ever team to win gold while hosting the Finals of a World Grand Prix, when they sailed through the final six in Omaha undefeated in 2015. Russia took second place and Brazil third. The 2015 edition brought together 28 teams in three groups, with the 'Queens of Africa' Kenya capping a brilliant year, topping Group 3 top in Canberra. And to close the season, the Netherlands defeated Poland in Lublin to win Group 2.



**FIVB Volleyball Club World Championships**

The annual FIVB Men's and Women's Club World Championships, which returned to the international volleyball calendar in 2009 and 2010 after last featuring in 1992 and 1994 respectively, showcase the best clubs from each continent. The 2010 edition marked the return of the double gender event after 18 years and, for the first time, featured alternate men's and women's matches in the same venue on the same day. In the men's tournament, Italy's Trentino won four successive titles in 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 before Brazil's Sada Cruzeiro broke their hold on the tournament in 2013. Then in 2014, Belogorie Belgorad became the first ever Russian winners of the tournament beating Qatar's Al-Rayyan to gold. Argentina's UPCN held off host club Sada Cruzeiro to clinch bronze. Russian women's club Dinamo Kazan clinched the 2014 edition of the women's competition, as they defeated Molico Osasco of Brazil in the Final. SESI-SP added another Brazilian side to the podium after they beat hosts Volero Zurich to take the bronze medal. Turkish club Eczacibasi Vitra Istanbul took gold in their tournament debut in 2015, seeing off Russian outfit Dinamo Kasnodar in the final in Zurich. Brazil's Sada Cruzeiro kept the home fans happy in Belo Horizonte later in the year, defeating Russia's Zenit Kazan to claim the men's crown.

**FIVB Volleyball Age Group World Championships**

The FIVB Volleyball Age Group World Championships are held every two years, with a total of six age group championships held in 2015. The Women's U20 World Championship took place in Puerto Rico as the Dominican Republic created history with the country's first ever volleyball world title. The Girls' U18 World Championship took place in Lima, Peru as Italy improved on the silver they won two years earlier by sweeping gold. Ankara, Turkey welcomed the Women's U23 World Championship with the hosts falling short in the final against Brazil before Resistencia – Corrientes in Argentina saw Poland emulate their senior counterparts by claiming the Boys' U19 World Championship. Dubai in the United Arab Emirates then hosted the Men's U23 World Championship with Russia showcasing their stars of the future, taking gold against Turkey in the final. The Men's U21 World Championship closed the year in Tijuana, Mexico as Russia again topped the podium. The first U20 and U21 World Championships were held in 1977 followed by the U18 and U19 World Championships which were inaugurated in 1989. A new competition – the FIVB U23 World Championships – joined them in 2013.



Beach volleyball has a prolific calendar which includes a Major Series, Grand Slam and Open events, World Championships, the World Tour Finals and World Continental Cup as well as other regional events.



## FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour

The FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour was first organised in 1989 with just three participating countries (Brazil, Japan and Italy) and is now in its 27<sup>th</sup> season with approximately 50 participating countries and more than 1,500 active registered athletes. The FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour 2015-2016 calendar extends from October 2015 to October 2016. The Olympic 2016 season includes five FIVB Grand Slams, the continuation of the FIVB Swatch Beach Volleyball Major Series – which was successfully introduced in 2015 – a special FIVB Swatch Beach Volleyball World Tour season Final and 14 FIVB Opens. The FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour also sees the Olympic qualification process continue with all FIVB World Tour events up until June 13, 2016 counting towards the Olympic Ranking in order to determine 15 vacancies for each gender, which will take part in the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. Five Grand Slams, which offer \$800,000 in prize money each, will also take place on the road to the second World Tour Finals. The innovative and dynamic FIVB Swatch Beach Volleyball Major Series including three tournaments offering \$800,000 each in prize money will complete the schedule. Fourteen Opens offering \$75,000 in prize money, per gender, also feature in the build-up to the World Tour Finals. The FIVB Swatch Beach Volleyball World Tour Finals, which will feature the top eight teams per gender based on a cumulative ranking of points from Grand Slams, Majors and Opens, will round out the season.

## FIVB Beach Volleyball World Championships

Staged every two years, the FIVB Beach Volleyball World Championships The Netherlands 2015 featured the brightest stars from the FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour, with 48 teams in each gender taking part. From June 26-July 5, all eyes were on the Dutch cities of The Hague, Apeldoorn, Amsterdam and Rotterdam, which hosted the tournament across multiple venues for the first time. Brazilian pairs occupied five of the six podium positions at the tournament, which went down in history for some remarkable innovations including the first use of the challenge system at a Beach Volleyball World Championships. Alison Cerutti/Bruno Schmidt won the men's gold, beating home duo Reinder Nummerdor/Christiaan Varenhorst in the final with fellow-Brazilians Pedro Solberg/Evandro Goncalves claiming bronze. It was full domination by Brazil on the women's podium, with Barbara Seixas/Agatha Bednarczuk claiming the gold, followed by Taiana Lima/Fernanda Alves for silver and Juliana Felisberta Silva/Maria Antonelli for bronze.

## FIVB Beach Volleyball Age Group World Championships

Held every two years, the FIVB Beach Volleyball Age Group World Championships provide an amazing opportunity for athletes to test themselves against the best in the world in their own age group. In 2014 four age group World Championships were held. The U23 tournament was the first to be held, with Polish duo Maciej Kosiak and Maciej Rudol clinching the men's title and Australia's Nicole Laird and Mariafe Artacho taking the women's gold in Myslowice. The U17 World Championships were then held in Acapulco, Mexico with Swiss pair Florian Breer and Yves Haussener sealing the boys' gold medal and Morgan Martin and Kathryn Plummer of USA taking the girls' title. The U21 World Championships were then held in Larnaka, Cyprus. Poland's Michal Bryl and Kacper Kujawiak finished on top of the podium in the men's edition with Canada's Sophie Bukovec and Tia Miric claiming the crown in the women's edition. The U19 World Championship was the final age group tournament of the year with Brazil making a clean sweep of the gold medals as Arthur Diego Mariano Lanci and George Souto Maior Wanderley took the men's prize and Eduarda Santos Lisboa and Andressa Cavalcanti

Ramalho clinching the women's. The next FIVB Beach Volleyball Age Group World Championships will take place in 2016 with Larnaka, Cyprus welcoming the U19 event and Lucern, Switzerland providing the backdrop for the U21 tournament.

## FIVB Beach Volleyball World Continental Cup and World Cup

The ground breaking Beach Volleyball World Continental Cup and the FIVB Beach Volleyball World Cup provide a new opportunity for countries to qualify for the Olympic Games. In addition to the 15 vacancies per gender offered on the FIVB World Tour. The first edition of the Beach Volleyball World Continental Cup was launched in 2010, building up to the London 2012 Olympic Games. A country versus country Olympic qualifying event, it was staged from June 25, 2010 to July 1, 2012 and disputed at the continental level (subzonal, zonal, final). The five winners of the Beach Volleyball World Continental Cup – one from each Continent – qualified for the Olympic Games. The 2012 Beach Volleyball World Cup Final Olympic Qualification tournament took place in Moscow, Russia and offered two additional Olympic berths for countries which had not qualified through either the FIVB World Tour or the Beach Volleyball World Continental Cup. This first World Continental Cup cycle ended with the FIVB

Beach Volleyball World Cup Final, which took place in Campinas, Brazil held from May 29 to June 2, 2013. Much to the delight of the home crowd Brazil took gold in both the men's and women's competition. Alison Cerutti and Emanuel Rego claimed men's gold and the title of the Beach Volleyball World Continental Cup champions, while compatriots Maria Antonelli and Talita Da Rocha Antunes took the women's title. The new Beach Volleyball World Continental Cup cycle has already begun as countries begin to plan their path to the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. The first phase of the CE, CSV and AVC Beach Volleyball World Continental Cup have now drawn to a close, with the NORCEA and CAVB editions finishing in early 2015.

## Other Events

The FIVB is also responsible for developing and managing events such as Challenger, Satellite (whenever under the jurisdiction of the FIVB), Exhibitions and Country versus Country. These events have boomed in recent years and are the perfect platform for creating the next generation of sporting stars and personalities. Challenger and Satellite events are part of a successful FIVB and Confederations development programme which aims to provide countries with the opportunity to promote an international event within a limited budget.

