

# 2009 FIVB World League Media Kit



July 17-18  
Wichita, Kan.

## USA vs. Netherlands





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## Media Information

**What is World League?** The FIVB's (Federation Internationale de Volleyball) premier annual international men's competition, the FIVB World League consists of six intercontinental rounds of tournaments. Each of the 16 teams is vying for a share of the over USD \$20 million prize money and a place in the final round in Belgrade, Serbia, from July 22-26. The teams will each play three rounds at home and three away, each round consisting of two matches against the same team on separate days over the same weekend.

The World League was created in 1990 as part of the intensive marketing program that would become a distinctive mark of the FIVB's activities near the end of the century.

The idea was to promote the sport of volleyball by establishing an annual competition that would appeal to audiences all over the world. At that point, international competitions involving top volleyball teams (i.e., the Olympic Games and World Championship) took place only in four-year cycles, and were usually confined to a host city or nation. By contrast, the World League was designed to be played on a one-year basis, with a system of rotating cities that allowed every team to host a number of matches in the preliminary round. Further restrictions on participation, such as mandatory local broadcasting, ensured massive TV and media coverage.

At the turn of the century, the World League was fully consolidated as a major international volleyball event. Generous rewards in cash - from 1990 to 2004, the total sum spent on prize money jumped from \$1 to \$13 million dollars - made up for the competition's relative lack of tradition and prestige in the eyes of the national federations.

**Press Director:** B.J. Evans (cell: 719-649-2389; e-mail: [bj.evans@usav.org](mailto:bj.evans@usav.org))

**USA Volleyball World League Web Site:** [www.usavolleyball.org/national/08WL.asp](http://www.usavolleyball.org/national/08WL.asp)

**FIVB World League Web Site:** [www.fivb.org/EN/Volleyball/Competitions/WorldLeague/2008](http://www.fivb.org/EN/Volleyball/Competitions/WorldLeague/2008)

The FIVB World League web site includes the post-match box and **statistics, match description, press conference quotes** and **high resolution photos** available for editorial publication.

**Match Times:** Each match starts at 7 p.m. on July 17-18



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**Match Venue:** Charles Koch Arena on the campus of Wichita State University in Wichita

**Charles Koch Arena**

1845 Fairmount St.  
Wichita, Kansas  
67260

**From North**

Take Interstate 135 South to 21st Street and go east (turn left). Take 21st Street to Hillside Street. Charles Koch Arena is on the southeast corner of 21st and Hillside.

**From South**

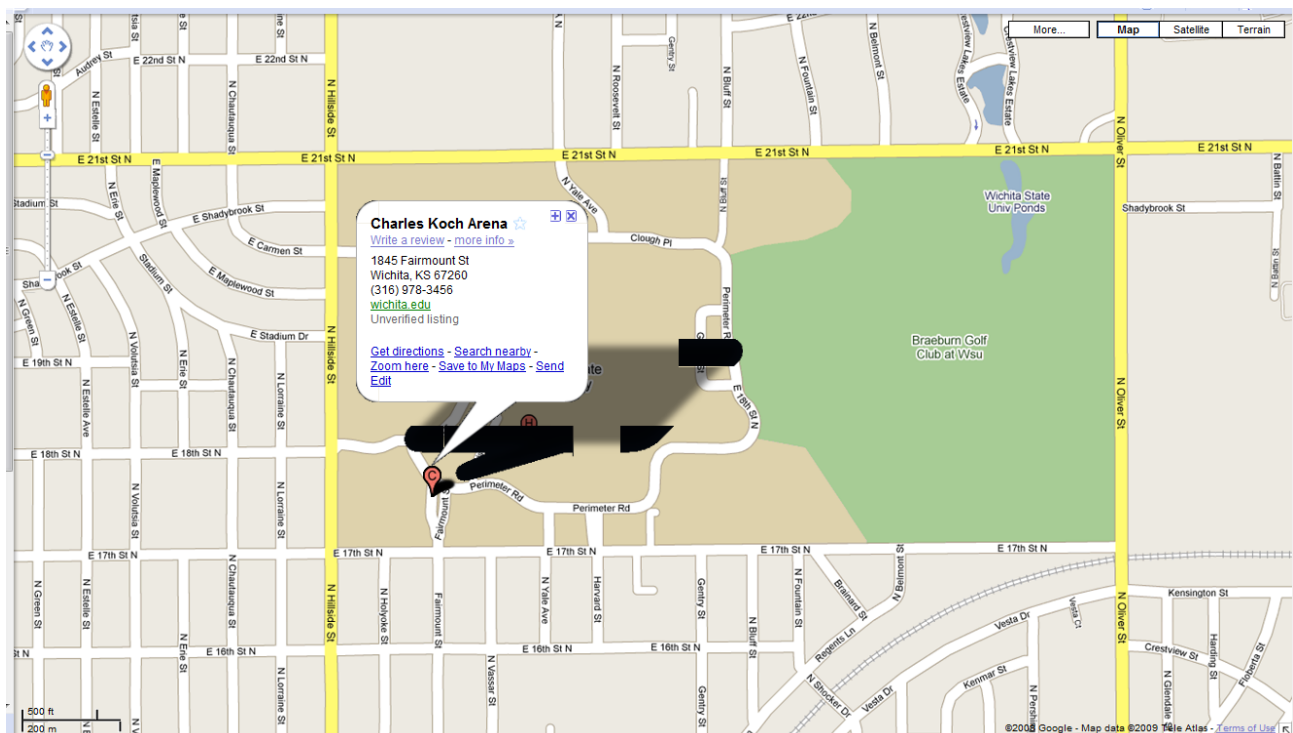
Take Interstate 135 North to 21st Street and go east (exit right). Take 21st Street to Hillside Street. Charles Koch Arena is on the southeast corner of 21st and Hillside.

**From East**

Take Interstate 35 West to Kellogg (U.S. Highway 54) exit and proceed west on Kellogg. Make a right at Rock Road and take Rock Road to 21st Street. Make a left at 21st Street (going west) and Charles Koch Arena is at 21st and Hillside.

**From West (and Wichita Mid-Continent Airport)**

From the airport, take Airport Road north to Kellogg (U.S. Highway 54). Take Kellogg east (past downtown) to Interstate 135 North to 21st Street and go east (exit right). Take 21st Street to Hillside Street. Charles Koch Arena is on the southeast corner of 21st and Hillside.





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**Host Hotel: Hyatt Regency Wichita**

400 West Waterman,  
Wichita, Kansas, USA 67202  
Tel: (316) 293-1234; Fax: (316) 293-1200  
<http://wichita.hyatt.com/hyatt/hotels/index.jsp>

Maps & Directions



**From Wichita Mid-Continent Airport (7 miles):**

Kellogg (Hwy. 54) East to Central Business District Exit. Turn left on Main Street. Go 3 blocks to Waterman Street and turn left. Hotel is in view.

**From the north:**

Take I-35 South to the Kellogg (Hwy. 54) WEST exit. Take the Central Business District exit to Main Street and turn right. Go 3 blocks to Waterman Street and turn left. Hotel is in view.

**From the south**

Take I-35 North to the Kellogg (Hwy. 54) WEST exit. Take the Central Business District exit to Main Street, and turn right. Go 3 blocks to Waterman Street and turn left. Hotel is in view.



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#### **Post-Match Interviews**

Team locker rooms are closed to the media. There will be a press conference held 5-15 minutes after the match. The coach and team captain will be at the press conference automatically. Any other player must be requested before the end of the match. Interpreters for international players will be available. Media who want to speak to a player or coach on the court immediately after the match must contact the press director.

#### **Photo Areas**

Credentialed photographers are free to go where necessary around the arena, but must stay behind the low signs around the court and may not stand behind the team bench area or the scorer's table. Please stay out of the way of TV cameras and fans.

#### **Statistics**

Statistics will be available after each set and at the end of each set and will be delivered to press row by a runner. Final statistics will be available a few minutes after the end of the match.

**THANK YOU FOR COMING!!!**



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### Netherlands Preliminary Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Age	Ht.	Wt.	Club	Hometown
1	Dennis van der Veen	MB	27	6-8	220	Paris Volley	Emmen
2	Nico Freriks	S	27	6-4	187	Jastrzebski Weigel	Horst
3*	Yannick van Harskamp	S	23	6-2	181	ORTEC Rotterdam Nesselande	Zwolle
4*	Robert Horstink	OH	27	6-7	203	Aqua Paradiso Montichiari	Apeldoorn
5	Bart-Jan van der Mark	MB	24	6-9	207	Piet Zoomers/D	Oud-Alblas
6*	Roland Rademaker	S	27	6-4	183	Moerser SC	<b>Nieuwerker</b>
7*	Richard Rademaker	L	27	6-3	176	ORTEC Rotterdam Nesselande	Rotterdam
8*	Kay van Dijk	Opp	25	7-1	229	LIG Greaters	Oosterbeek
9*	Jeroen Trommel	OH	28	6-4	198	IBB Spor	<b>Capelle</b>
10*	Jeroen Rauwerdink	OH	23	6-7	205	Aqua Paradiso Montichiari	Zeist
11*	Jan Willem Snippe	OH	23	6-7	203	A.S. Volley Lube/Macerata	Wormer
12*	Wytze Kooistra	OH	27	6-10	220	Trenkwalder Modena	Amsterdam
13*	Tije Vlam	MB	23	6-9	205	ORTEC Rotterdam Nesselande	Delft
14*	Niels Klapwijk	Opp	23	6-7	187	ORTEC Rotterdam Nesselande	Zevenhuizen
15*	Lars Lorscheijd	MB	24	6-7	198	ORTEC Rotterdam Nesselande	Den Haag
16	Dick Kooy	OH	21	6-8	176	ORTEC Rotterdam Nesselande	Baarn
17*	Rob Bontje	MB	28	6-9	207	Verona	Geleen
18*	Jelte Maan	L	23	6-3	183	Noliko Maaseik	Apeldoorn
19	Mathijs Mast	Opp	24	6-7	190	Piet Zoomers/D	Apeldoorn

**\*Expected to be on roster for Wichita**

**Head coach:** Peter Blangé

**Team manager:** Jan Koehorst/Piet Steenaard

**Assistant coach:** Arnold van Ree

**Doctor:** Ton Langenhorst/Joost van der Hoek

**Therapist / trainer:** Ivo 't Lam/Lard Davidse

**Journalist:** Willem Held/Rene Banierink



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## Netherlands Team Profile

The National Volleyball Federation of the Netherlands was founded in 1947, the same year as the founding of the FIVB, and the sport soon became an integral part of school curricula. Two years later, the national team took part in the first World Championship in Czechoslovakia and finished tenth.

But the Dutch had to wait until the beginning of the 1990s for their international breakthrough, when legendary coach Arie Selinger was put in charge of molding the national squad.

The Dutch scored their best result at the World Championship in Greece (1994), where they won the silver medal. Two years later, the team won gold at the Atlanta Olympic Games and were also crowned kings of the World League in Rotterdam.

In 1997, the Netherlands won the European Championship.

More recently under new coach Peter Blangé, the men in Orange won the European League title in 2006 signaling a promising new era for the Men's National Team.

Improvement has come steadily to the World No. 28 Dutch, who beat powerhouses Poland and Spain during the 2008 Olympic Qualification Tournament in Izmir, Turkey and looked to be on their way to the Beijing Games, only to lose in straight sets to Serbia in the semifinal.



The Dutch had greater success in the European League last season, stringing together an unbeaten run of 13 matches in total to reach the final of the competition. They eventually lost 3-1 to Slovakia and settled for silver.

Earlier in 2008, Blangé's men qualified for the 2009 European Championships in Turkey by manhandling Azerbaijan, Latvia and Slovenia. In their six matches, Holland dropped only a single set en route to securing a berth in the Final Round this September.

After an absence of six years, the team is looking forward to participating in the FIVB World League, the most prestigious Volleyball competition in the world. It is hoped that Blangé's young and ambitious team will shine at the tournament and eventually wind up on the winner's podium at the Finals in July.



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## Netherlands Head Coach Peter Blangé



Peter Blangé (born in Voorburg, Dec. 9, 1964) is an ambitious man with many years of experience in sports, as a player as well as a coach.

Since May 2006 he has been the head coach of the Dutch Men's Volleyball Team. He recently extended

his contract to last until the 2012 Olympic Games in London.

### Career as a player

Blangé started his Volleyball career at age 11 in his hometown of Voorburg (Tonegido). He later played for PVC Blokkeer, Starlift and Brother Martinus. From 1990 he played in Italy for Catania and Maxicono Parma. In 1996 he played one year for Moerser SC in Germany and then returned to Italy to play for Treviso. He ended his playing career at Vrevok in the Netherlands.

In 1984, Blangé made his début in the Dutch Men's National Team as a setter and was part of the team that won a silver medal at the Olympics in Barcelona in 1992. Four years later he became Olympic Champion in Atlanta, the same year he won the World League Finals in Ahoy

Rotterdam. Blangé then won the 1997 European Championships with his team before participating in his fourth and final Olympics in Sydney 2000, where he played his 500th international match for the National Team. In total, Blangé had an impressive career of 16 years, during which he participated at four Olympic Games, eight World League Tournaments and six European Championships. His 500 international matches are still a record in the Netherlands.

### Career as a Coach

After his career as a player, Blangé became the head coach of ORTEC Rotterdam-Nesselande, where he guided the team to the national title and the National Cup tournament three times.

Since May 2006, Blangé has been the head coach of the Dutch Men's National Team. The same year, Blangé and his men qualified for the 2007 European Championships in Russia and won the European League. At the 2008 Olympic Qualification Tournament in Izmir, the team unfortunately did not succeed in earning a ticket to the Beijing Olympics.

In 2009, Blangé and his team will try to qualify for the 2010 World Championships, perform their best in the FIVB World League and will attempt to reach the Final Four of the European Championships in Turkey.



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**United States Preliminary Roster**

No	Name	Pos	Age	Ht	Wt	Hometown	College
1	Matt Anderson	OH	22	6-9	190	West Seneca, N.Y.	Penn State
2	Sean Rooney	OH	26	6-9	220	Wheaton, Ill.	Pepperdine
3	Evan Patak	Opp	25	6-7	250	Pleasanton, Calif.	UC Santa Barbara
4	David Lee	MB	27	6-8	232	Alpine, Calif.	Long Beach State
5	Rich Lambourne	L	34	6-3	198	Tustin, Calif.	BYU
6	Paul Lotman	OH	23	6-7	225	Lakewood, Calif.	Long Beach State
7	Donald Suxho	S	33	6-5	216	Korce, Albania	USC
8	Andrew Hein	MB	24	6-11	220	Carol Stream, Ill.	Pepperdine
9	Jonathan Winder	S	23	6-8	200	Irvine, Calif.	Pepperdine
10	David Smith	MB	24	6-7	190	Saugus, Calif.	UC Irvine
11	Brook Billings	Opp	29	6-5	210	Santa Barbara, Calif.	USC
12	Tom Hoff	MB	36	6-8	207	Park Ridge, Ill.	Long Beach State
13	Clay Stanley	Opp	31	6-9	230	Honolulu, Hawai'i	Hawai'i
14	Kevin Hansen	S	27	6-5	205	Newport Beach, Calif.	Stanford
15	Russell Holmes	MB	26	6-8	210	Fountain Valley, Calif.	BYU
16	Jayson Jablonsky	OH	23	6-5	196	Yorba Linda, Calif.	UC Irvine
17	Delano Thomas	MB	26	6-7	210	Sacramento, Calif.	Hawai'i
18	Scott Touzinsky	OH	27	6-6	194	St. Louis, Mo.	Long Beach State
19	Alfee Reft	L	26	5-10	176	Oxnard, Calif.	Hawai'i

**Head Coach:** Alan Knipe (Huntington Beach, Calif.)

**Team Manager:** Jeff Stork (Topanga, Calif.)

**Assistant Coach:** Gary Sato (Los Angeles, Calif.)

**Therapist/Trainer:** John Hawks IV (Huntington Beach, Calif.)

**Technical Coordinator:** Christopher Jackson (Phoenix, Ariz.)

**Medical Support:** Aaron Brock (Storm Lake, Iowa)

**Team Doctor:** Dr. Andrew Gregory



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**Standings as of July 13**

**Pool A**

Rk	Code	Country	Points	Matches		Points			Sets		
				Won	Lost	Won	Lost	Ratio	Won	Lost	Ratio
1	USA	USA	21	7	3	912	848	1.075	24	15	1.600
2	ITA	Italy	17	6	4	849	783	1.084	21	15	1.400
3	NED	Netherlands	13	4	6	775	829	0.935	16	20	0.800
4	CHN	China	9	3	7	755	831	0.909	12	23	0.522

**Pool B**

Rk	Code	Country	Points	Matches		Points			Sets		
				Won	Lost	Won	Lost	Ratio	Won	Lost	Ratio
1	SRB	Serbia	18	6	4	886	857	1.034	21	18	1.167
2	FRA	France	17	6	4	922	911	1.012	23	18	1.278
3	ARG	Argentina	16	5	5	979	991	0.988	23	22	1.045
4	KOR	Korea	9	3	7	930	958	0.971	16	25	0.640

**Pool C**

Rk	Code	Country	Points	Matches		Points			Sets		
				Won	Lost	Won	Lost	Ratio	Won	Lost	Ratio
1	CUB	Cuba	20	6	4	925	862	1.073	24	16	1.500
2	RUS	Russia	17	6	4	891	852	1.046	22	17	1.294
3	BUL	Bulgaria	15	5	5	912	929	0.982	20	20	1.000
4	JPN	Japan	8	3	7	804	889	0.904	12	25	0.480

**Pool D**

Rk	Code	Country	Points	Matches		Points			Sets		
				Won	Lost	Won	Lost	Ratio	Won	Lost	Ratio
1	BRA	Brazil	27	9	1	855	695	1.230	29	6	4.833
2	FIN	Finland	17	6	4	861	871	0.989	20	18	1.111
3	POL	Poland	11	4	6	764	796	0.960	14	21	0.667
4	VEN	Venezuela	5	1	9	762	880	0.866	9	27	0.333

*Note:* Match won 3-0 or 3-1: 3 points for the winner, 0 point for the loser

Match won 3-2: 2 points for the winner, 1 point for the loser

In case of tie, the teams will be classified according to the following criteria: number of matches won, points ratio and sets ratio



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FIVB World League Results				
Year	Final Round Host	Champions	Runners-up	3rd place
1990	 <a href="#">Osaka, Japan</a>	 <a href="#">Italy</a>	 <a href="#">Netherlands</a>	 <a href="#">Brazil</a>
1991	 <a href="#">Milan, Italy</a>	 <a href="#">Italy</a>	 <a href="#">Cuba</a>	 <a href="#">Soviet Union</a>
1992	 <a href="#">Genova, Italy</a>	 <a href="#">Italy</a>	 <a href="#">Cuba</a>	 <a href="#">United States</a>
1993	 <a href="#">São Paulo, Brazil</a>	 <a href="#">Brazil</a>	 <a href="#">Russia</a>	 <a href="#">Italy</a>
1994	 <a href="#">Milan, Italy</a>	 <a href="#">Italy</a>	 <a href="#">Cuba</a>	 <a href="#">Brazil</a>
1995	 <a href="#">Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</a>	 <a href="#">Italy</a>	 <a href="#">Brazil</a>	 <a href="#">Cuba</a>
1996	 <a href="#">Rotterdam, Netherlands</a>	 <a href="#">Netherlands</a>	 <a href="#">Italy</a>	 <a href="#">Russia</a>
1997	 <a href="#">Moscow, Russia</a>	 <a href="#">Italy</a>	 <a href="#">Cuba</a>	 <a href="#">Russia</a>
1998	 <a href="#">Milan, Italy</a>	 <a href="#">Cuba</a>	 <a href="#">Russia</a>	 <a href="#">Netherlands</a>
1999	 <a href="#">Mar del Plata, Argentina</a>	 <a href="#">Italy</a>	 <a href="#">Cuba</a>	 <a href="#">Brazil</a>
2000	 <a href="#">Rotterdam, Netherlands</a>	 <a href="#">Italy</a>	 <a href="#">Russia</a>	 <a href="#">Brazil</a>
2001	 <a href="#">Katowice, Poland</a>	 <a href="#">Brazil</a>	 <a href="#">Italy</a>	 <a href="#">Russia</a>
2002	 <a href="#">Belo Horizonte, Brazil</a>	 <a href="#">Russia</a>	 <a href="#">Brazil</a>	 <a href="#">Yugoslavia</a>
2003	 <a href="#">Madrid, Spain</a>	 <a href="#">Brazil</a>	 <a href="#">Serbia and Montenegro</a>	 <a href="#">Italy</a>



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2004	 <a href="#">Rome, Italy</a>	 <a href="#">Brazil</a>	 <a href="#">Italy</a>	 <a href="#">Serbia and Montenegro</a>
2005	 <a href="#">Belgrade, Serbia and Montenegro</a>	 <a href="#">Brazil</a>	 <a href="#">Serbia and Montenegro</a>	 <a href="#">Cuba</a>
2006	 <a href="#">Moscow, Russia</a>	 <a href="#">Brazil</a>	 <a href="#">France</a>	 <a href="#">Russia</a>
2007	 <a href="#">Katowice, Poland</a>	 <a href="#">Brazil</a>	 <a href="#">Russia</a>	 <a href="#">United States</a>
2008	 <a href="#">Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</a>	 <a href="#">United States</a>	 <a href="#">Serbia</a>	 <a href="#">Russia</a>

### Medals Summary

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	 Italy	8	3	2	13
2	 Brazil	7	2	4	13
3	 Cuba	1	5	2	8
4	 Russia <sup>[1]</sup>	1	4	6	11
5	 Netherlands	1	1	1	3
6	 United States	1	0	2	3
7	 Serbia <sup>[2]</sup>	0	3	2	5
8	 France	0	1	0	1

**Note:** 1. Russia played from 1990 to 1991 as the Soviet Union and in 1992 as CIS

2. Serbia played from 1990 to 1991 as SFR Yugoslavia, from 1992 to 2002 as FR Yugoslavia and from 2003 to 2006 as Serbia and Montenegro



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### International Volleyball Fact Sheet

**Introduction:** Volleyball has major international competitions every year and, at its highest level, is a physically demanding sport played by some of the world's most elite athletes. Of course, volleyball is also a popular recreational activity enjoyed by more than 38 million persons in the United States (more than any team sport but basketball) and more than 800 million persons globally, making it the world's most popular participant sport. This fact sheet is designed to provide more understanding about international volleyball and its major competitions, including the Olympic Games.

**International Governing Body:** The international governing body for volleyball is the Federation Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB), headquartered in Lausanne, Switzerland. The FIVB is the world's largest sports federation, with more than 200 member nations. Under the direction of its president, Dr. Ruben Acosta of Mexico, the FIVB oversees the administration of volleyball throughout the world and is responsible for producing several major events, including the Olympic Games, World Championships, World Cup, World League and World Grand Prix.

**National Governing Body:** The national governing body (NGB) for volleyball in the United States is USA Volleyball, formerly known as the United States Volleyball Association. Founded in 1928, USA Volleyball is responsible for the administration of all forms of volleyball in the United States, including producing the annual USA Open Volleyball Championships, Junior Olympic Championships and the USA Outdoor National Championships. As mandated by the 1978 Amateur Sports Act, USA Volleyball is responsible to the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) and the FIVB for training and nominating the teams which represent the United States in the Olympic Games and other important volleyball competitions worldwide.

**Major Competitions:** The four major events on the international volleyball calendar are the

Olympic Games (men and women, indoor and beach), World Championships (men and women, indoor and beach), World Cup (men and women, indoor), World League (men, indoor) and World Grand Prix (women, indoor). All events are conducted quadrennially, with the exceptions of the annual World League/Grand Prix and the biennial Beach World Championships.

**World Rankings:** Following the decision of the FIVB Board of Administration, a new system of point attribution based on a new scale has been implemented for the FIVB World Ranking of Volleyball National Teams. The following competitions are now included:

- Senior World Championships included for four years - 25 percent reduction each year. Points are also granted for the qualification matches, to the best non-qualified teams.
- Olympic Games included for four years – 25 percent reduction each year. Points are also granted for the qualification matches, to the best non-qualified teams.
- World Cup included for two years - 50 percent reduction the second year.
- Senior Continental Championships included for two years - 50 percent reduction the second year; points are also granted for the qualification matches to the best non-qualified teams.
- Men's World League / Women's World Grand Prix included for one year.
- Junior World Championships included for two years - 50 percent reduction the second year.
- Junior Continental Championships included for two years - 50 percent reduction the second year.

Following are the top 20 teams in the FIVB World Rankings as of Jan. 15, 2009:

Men	Women
1. Brazil	1. Brazil
<b>2. USA</b>	<b>2. USA</b>
3. Russia	3. Cuba
4. Bulgaria	4. Italy



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5. Serbia	5. China
6. Italy	6. Japan
7. Poland	7. Serbia
8. China	8. Russia
9. Japan	9. Poland
10. Spain	10. Korea
10. Puerto Rico	11. Turkey
12. Argentina	12. Germany
13. Germany	13. Dominican Rep.
14. Australia	14. Kazakhstan
14. Venezuela	15. Netherlands
16. Egypt	16. Kenya
17. France	17. Peru
18. Korea	18. Algeria
18. Cuba	19. Thailand
20. Tunisia	19. Puerto Rico

**Olympic Games:** Volleyball made its debut in the 1964 Olympics in Tokyo. Twelve teams in both the men's and women's draw earn the right to compete:

For the 2008 Olympics, China, as the host country, gets an automatic berth. Eleven other countries must qualify. Three countries will qualify at the 2007 World Cup. After that, countries can qualify at their zone qualifiers, or at other international qualifying events.

**Past Olympic Champions (Men)**

1964: Soviet Union (USA, ninth)  
1968: Soviet Union (USA, seventh)  
1972: Japan, (USA, DNQ)  
1976: Poland (USA, DNQ)  
1980: Soviet Union (USA, DNQ)  
1984: USA  
1988: USA  
1992: Brazil (USA, third)  
1996: Netherlands (USA, ninth)  
2000: Yugoslavia (USA, 11<sup>th</sup>)  
2004: Brazil (USA, fourth)  
2008: USA

**Past Olympic Champions (Women)**

1964: Japan (USA, fifth)  
1968: Soviet Union (USA, eighth)  
1972: Soviet Union (USA, DNQ)  
1976: Japan (USA, DNQ)  
1980: Soviet Union (USA, DNP)  
1984: China (USA, second)  
1988: Soviet Union (USA, seventh)  
1992: Cuba (USA, third)  
1996: Cuba (USA, seventh)  
2000: Cuba (USA, fourth)  
2004: China (USA, fifth)  
2008: Brazil (USA, second)

**World Championships:** The World Championships are held every four years in the second year after the Olympics. The site, usually separate for the men's and women's competitions, is determined by the FIVB based on bids received from interested cities. The 24 berths for the men and women are gained in the following manner:

- Host country
- Defending world champions
- FIVB determines the appropriate number of qualification spots for each continent/zone based on performance at the previous World Championships.

**Past World Champions (Men)**

1949: Soviet Union (USA, DNP)  
1952: Soviet Union (USA, DNP)  
1956: Czechoslovakia (USA, sixth)  
1960: Soviet Union (USA, seventh)  
1962: Soviet Union (USA, DNP)  
1966: Czechoslovakia (USA, 11<sup>th</sup>)  
1970: East Germany (USA, 18<sup>th</sup>)  
1974: Poland (USA, 14<sup>th</sup>)  
1978: Soviet Union (USA, 19<sup>th</sup>)  
1982: Soviet Union (USA, 13<sup>th</sup>)  
1986: USA  
1990: Italy (USA, 13<sup>th</sup>)  
1994: Italy (USA, third)  
1998: Italy (USA, ninth)  
2002: Brazil (USA, ninth)  
2006: Brazil (USA, 10<sup>th</sup>)



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USA Volleyball.

**Past World Champions (Women)**

1952: Soviet Union (USA, DNP)  
1956: Soviet Union (USA, ninth)  
1960: Soviet Union (USA, sixth)  
1962: Japan (USA, DNP)  
1966: Japan (USA, second)  
1970: Soviet Union (USA, 11<sup>th</sup>)  
1974: Japan (USA, 12<sup>th</sup>)  
1978: Cuba (USA, fifth)  
1982: China (USA, third)  
1986: China (USA, 10<sup>th</sup>)  
1990: Soviet Union (USA, third)  
1994: Cuba (USA, sixth)  
1998: Cuba (USA, 13<sup>th</sup>)  
2002: Italy (USA, second)  
2006: Russia (USA, ninth)

**World Cup:** The World Cup is held every four years, in the year prior to the Olympic Games. Though originally held at various sites, it has been hosted by Japan since 1977. Prior to 1991, the World Cup took place in the year immediately following the Olympics. The 12 berths in the World Cup for men and women are gained in the following manner:

- Host country (Japan- Men and Women)
- Defending World Cup champion
- Winners of the five zone championships
- The highest-placed team (of each zone) not qualified for the Olympic Games in accordance with the ranking of the zone championships.

**Past World Cup Champions (Men)**

1965: Soviet Union (USA, DNP)  
1969: East Germany (USA, DNP)  
1973: Soviet Union (USA, seventh)  
1977: Soviet Union (USA, 10<sup>th</sup>)  
1981: Soviet Union (USA, DNQ)  
1985: USA  
1989: Cuba (USA, fourth)  
1991: Soviet Union (USA, third)  
1995: Italy (USA, fourth)  
1999: Russia (USA, fourth)  
2003: Brazil (USA, fourth)  
2007: Brazil (USA, fourth)

**Past World Cup Champions (Women)**

1973: Soviet Union (USA, sixth)  
1977: Japan (USA, seventh)  
1981: China (USA, fourth)  
1985: China (USA, DNQ)  
1989: Cuba (USA, DNQ)  
1991: Cuba (USA, fourth)  
1995: Cuba (USA, seventh)  
1999: Cuba (USA, ninth)  
2003: China (USA, third)  
2007: Italy (USA, third)

**Zone Championships:** The volleyball world is divided into five international zones. The United States is in the NORCECA (North America Central America Caribbean) Zone, with championships held every other year at various sites. The other zones are Europe, Asia, Africa and South America. The frequency of zone championships competition varies in each of the five sections. Any nation in a particular zone may participate in its zone championships whenever such a competition is conducted.

**Past NORCECA Champions (Men)**

1969: Cuba (USA, third)  
1971: Cuba (USA, second)  
1973: USA  
1975: Cuba (USA, third)  
1977: Cuba (USA, fifth)  
1979: Cuba (USA, fifth)  
1981: Cuba (USA, second)  
1983: USA  
1985: USA  
1987: Cuba (USA, second)  
1989: Cuba (USA, third)  
1991: Cuba (USA, second)  
1993: Cuba (USA, second)  
1995: Cuba (USA, second)  
1997: Cuba (USA, second)  
1999: USA  
2001: Cuba (USA, second)  
2003: USA  
2005: USA  
2007: USA



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USA Volleyball.

**Past NORCECA Champions (Women)**

1969: Mexico (USA, sixth)  
1971: Mexico (USA, third)  
1973: Cuba (USA, third)  
1975: Cuba (USA, second)  
1977: Cuba (USA, third)  
1979: Cuba (USA, second)  
1981: USA  
1983: USA  
1985: Cuba (USA, second)  
1987: Cuba (USA, second)  
1989: Cuba (USA, third)  
1991: Cuba (USA, second)  
1993: Cuba (USA, second)  
1995: Cuba (USA, second)  
1997: Cuba (USA, second)  
1999: Cuba (USA, second)  
2001: USA  
2003: USA  
2005: USA  
2007: Cuba (USA, second)

**World League and World Grand Prix:** The World League features the top 12 men's volleyball teams in the world in competition for a total purse that has grown to \$15 million since the inaugural season in 1990. Teams are divided into three, four-team pools and each country playing the other teams in their pool four times (twice at home, twice on the road). The winner and runner-up in each pool advance to a seeded playoff round. The regular season is usually played in May and June with playoffs in early July.

The World Grand Prix is the women's counterpart to the World League, and offers a total purse of \$2 million to its 12-team field. Teams play in different four-team pools each weekend, at round-robin tournaments hosted by cities throughout Asia. The three teams with the best records join the host country for the Grand Prix Finals. The regular

season is played in August and early-September with playoffs in mid-September.

**Men's World League Champions**

1990: Italy (USA, fourth in pool)  
1991: Italy (USA, third in pool)  
1992: Italy (USA, first in pool, third overall)  
1993: Brazil (USA, fifth in pool)  
1994: Italy (USA, fourth in pool)  
1995: Italy (USA, fourth in pool)  
1996: Netherlands (USA, DNP)  
1997: Italy (USA, DNP)  
1998: Cuba (USA, DNP)  
1999: Italy (USA, DNP)  
2000: Italy (USA, first in pool, sixth overall)  
2001: Brazil (USA, third in pool, tied-ninth overall)  
2002: Russia (USA, DNP)  
2003: Brazil (USA, DNP)  
2004: Brazil (USA, DNP)  
2005: Brazil (USA, DNP)  
2006: Brazil (USA, 10<sup>th</sup>)  
2007: Brazil (USA, first in pool, third overall)  
2008: USA (USA, first in pool)

**Women's World Grand Prix Champions**

1993: Cuba (USA, seventh regular season)  
1994: Brazil (USA, fifth regular season)  
1995: USA  
1996: Brazil (USA, fifth)  
1997: Russia (USA, eighth)  
1998: Brazil (USA, eighth)  
1999: Russia (USA, DNP)  
2000: Cuba (USA, sixth)  
2001: USA  
2002: Russia (USA, sixth)  
2003: China (USA, third)  
2004: Brazil (USA, third)  
2005: Brazil (USA, eighth)  
2006: Brazil (USA, seventh)  
2007: Netherlands (USA, seventh)  
2008: Brazil (USA, fourth)