

**USA VOLLEYBALL (“USAV”)
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2009 U-19 and U-21 Beach World Championships
March 16, 2009**

I. SELECTION SYSTEM

A. Minimum eligibility requirements to be considered for nomination to the Team:

1. Citizenship: Athletes who are citizens of the United States of America, or who live in a territory of the United States of America and have a valid United States passport, and meet the eligibility requirements and are eligible to be nominated and selected as a member of the 2009 USA Beach Volleyball Youth, Junior, and U26/A2 National Team (hereinafter the “Beach Teams”).
2. Minimum IF/NGB standards for participation (if any): FIVB age requirements.
 - a. FIVB U-19, Youth Team: Born on or after January 1, 1991
 - b. FIVB U-21, Junior Team: Born on or after January 1, 1989
 - c. USAV U-26/A2 Team. Born on or after January 1, 1984
3. Other requirements (if any): Current registrant of USA Volleyball

B. How an athlete is selected as a nominee to the Team.

Members of the Beach Teams will be recommended from those athletes who attend the Beach High Performance Tryouts (hereinafter “BHPT”), or any make-up tryout that the staff deems necessary. The USA Volleyball Beach Youth, Junior, and U26/A2 coaching staff, Head Coach (Mrs. Danalee Corso) and Director (Mrs. Ali Lamberson), is responsible for making all athlete recommendations using the selection criteria identified in Section II. C. below.

C. Tryout Events:

1. USAV Beach High Performance Tryouts, dates and locations:

- a. April 6, Long Beach, CA
- b. May 15-16, Siesta Key, FL
- c. May 23, Long Beach, CA
- d. May 24, Long Beach, CA
- e. May 30-31, Muskegon, MI
- f. May 31, Muskegon, MI
- g. June 7, Long Beach, CA
- h. Make-up tryout deemed necessary by the staff. BHPTs are open tryouts. Athletes may register online at: www.usavolleyball.org.

2. Athletes targeted for invitation to the BHPT shall include those who achieved any of the following:

- a. Placed 1st in a USA Beach Tour tournament within the last 365 days.
- b. Displayed exemplary skill in a USA Beach Camp.
- c. Displayed exemplary skill and commitment to regional beach programs.

- d. Placed 1st in the AAU Beach Nationals, Junior Olympic Games, or Tour Championships within the last 365 days.

II. SELECTION OF 2009 USA YOUTH, JUNIOR, AND U26/A2BEACH NATIONAL TEAMS.

- A. Members of the 2009 Youth, Junior, and U26/A2Beach Teams will be recommended from those athletes who participate in the BHPT. The Teams will be recommended by the USA Volleyball Beach Youth, Junior, and U26/A2Team Head Coach and Beach Programs Director with input from other members of the staff in accordance with the procedures described below.
- B. By June 16th, 2009 the coaching staff will have identified up to eight (8) athletes per age group per gender who will comprise the 2009 Beach National Training Teams. From this group, the final athletes who will participate in the FIVB U-19 and U-21 World Championships and an identified U-26 competition will be chosen. The selections will be based upon the Selection Criteria (Section II. C.). Once selected, the 2009 Beach Teams shall train under a program developed by the USA Youth, Junior, and U26/A2Team coaching staff.
- C. SELECTION CRITERIA. In selecting athletes as members of the Beach Teams, the USAV Beach staff will consider the information listed below. In evaluating athletes, the USAV Youth, Junior, and U26/A2coaching staff will use written and observational evaluations of athletes which shall be retained by USA Volleyball for at least six months past the Closing Ceremonies of the 2009 Youth, Junior, and U26/A2World Championships.
- D. Final selections will be made based on the athlete's score in skill evaluation, results in round robin event, and final evaluation by the Head Coach and Director. Skills to be tested are:
 1. Attack Efficiency
 2. Blocking Efficiency
 3. Digging Efficiency
 4. Setting Efficiency
 5. Serving Efficiency
 6. Passing Efficiency
- E. Other considerations shall be factored into the selection process and shall include:
 1. Teamwork: The willingness to accept a role that leads to team success.
 2. Positive Attitude: Exhibiting enthusiasm and support of teammates.
 3. Versatility: Exhibiting a balance between offensive and defensive skills as well as the ability to play multiple sides and with multiple partners.
 4. Maturity: Exhibiting an ability to adjust to various situations, dealing with adversity, and reacting appropriately.
 5. Coach Direction: Exhibiting the ability to process and incorporate input from the coaching staff.
- F. Other: Intangible considerations that affect the dynamics and performance of the Team. The sport of volleyball is not a measured or timed event. In the selection of athletes who will compete together as a team, it is difficult to make selection decisions based solely upon objective criteria. It is the belief of USAV Beach staff that considering the mix of Selection Criteria set forth above, which includes subjective components as well as objective statistical measures in evaluation of performance ability, will result in selection of the best athletes who will work together as an effective team and contribute to team success.

G. The USAV Youth, Junior, and U26/A2coaching staff, and ultimately the Head Coach (Mrs. Danalee Corso) and the Director (Mrs. Ali Lamberson) are responsible for making all athlete recommendations to the respective Teams. There is no Selection Committee for this event.

III. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

A. USAV has jurisdiction over potential nominees. An athlete who is to be nominated to the Team by USAV may be removed from the Nominations for any of the following reasons, as determined by the USAV.

1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter or other acceptable form of certifiable notification (e-mail) to USAV's Beach Director.
2. Injury or illness.
3. Violation of USAV's Athlete Behavior & Ethics Agreement and/or Team Code of Conduct. An athlete who may be removed from the Team pursuant to these provisions has the right to a hearing per USA Volleyball's Bylaws (Article XI) or USOC Bylaws, Article IX.

IV. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES

A. Replacement athletes will be selected, if necessary, from the top performers at the BHPT. See Selection Criteria (Section II. C.).

B. In the event an athlete is removed from a Team, a replacement athlete shall be recommended from the identified replacement players by the respective USAV Youth, Junior, and U26/A2coaching staff. The selection shall be based upon the Selection Criteria (see Section II. C.) outlined in this document.

C. All replacements shall be made on the recommendations of the Head Coach and Director.

V. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

USAV will retain all supporting documents, including statistical, videotape, written and observational evaluations, etc., and data from the selection process for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremonies of the 2009 World Championships.

VI. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of participation in the Youth, Junior, and U26/A2World Championship Games and are included as attachments:

A. USAV's Registration Form (available at: www.usavolleyball.org)

B. USAV's Medical Release for participants under 18 years of age (available at: www.usavolleyball.org)

VII. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

The Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by the USAV in the following location:

- A. NGB website: www.usavolleyball.org. The website information will be posted as soon as possible.
- B. Other: The approved selection procedures will be made available to each athlete participating in a USAV Beach High Performance Tryout or to any other person upon request.

VIII. DATE OF NOMINATION

Nomination of Athletes will be submitted to the no fewer than FIVB 35 days before the first competition dates of each event.

IX. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

The USA Youth, Junior, and U26/A2 coaching staff will develop a program of mandatory training for those athletes selected to the Team. Each member of the Team is required to participate in the program of training, unless excused by the Head Coach for medical or other justifiable reason. Athletes will be notified of any programs of training and/or competition at least 14 days prior to the start of the mandatory training/competition.

X. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

Athletes must adhere to all PASO, WADA, FIVB, USADA and USOC antidoping protocols, policies and procedures.

XI. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

These selection procedures were developed by USA Volleyball's Director Beach Programs, Ali Lamberson, and Youth, Junior, and U26/A2 Beach Head Coach, Danalee Corso. For questions please contact: ali.wood@usav.org, danalee.corso@usav.org, or call 310-364-5214.

XII. NGB BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The USAV Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at: www.usavolleyball.org

XIII. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN

Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by USAV may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman: John W. Ruger by:

- Toll free telephone at (888) ATHLETE
- E-mail at john.ruger@usoc.org
- www.888athlete.org