

# GENERAL REGULATIONS

Version: 2021

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# **Article 1**

# **National Federations (NFs)**

The NFs are established and affiliated according to Article 4 of the AVC Constitution.

# 1.1 AVC-NFS UNITY

- The NFs founded the AVC as a worldwide organization, pursuing common goals. The AVC mission statement is unique and devoid of any discriminatory attitude, cultural prejudice and individual or group interests.
- In order to foster the image of such unity worldwide, the AVC is obliged to prevent the development of attitudes or visions advocating regional attachments against the general interest of Volleyball.

# 1.2 INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONSHIP

- As decided by the NFs, the AVC is not a sum of individual NFs, but the expression of a democratic relationship and understanding between the AVC governing and supporting institutions.
- To preserve institutional relationships and understanding, the AVC and its NFs have decided to reject any attitude, tendency or policy going against its democratic principles.

## 1.3 PROCEDURE OF AFFILIATION

- 1.3.1 Application form. A NF desiring to be affiliated submits a written application, signed by its President and Secretary and forwards it in triplicate to the AVC Secretariat.
- 1.3.2 The application for affiliation must clearly state:
  - a) the complete name in full and abbreviated, and the postal address of the applicant Federation together with the e-mail address, telephone, and fax numbers when available;
  - b) the commitment to comply with the AVC Constitution, Regulations, rules and decisions;
  - c) the commitment to observe the Volleyball Rules of the Game adopted by the FIVB;
  - d) the commitment to include in its own Constitution the obligations set out in AVC Constitution, these Regulations and those relating to players' eligibility;
  - e) the commitment to pay the annual fee and to comply with sanctions, according to the AVC Constitution, Regulations, rules and decisions;
  - f) the commitment to defray the travel and living expenses of any of its delegates or members elected or appointed as officials of the AVC; and
  - g) the number of clubs and players affiliated to the NF.

- 1.3.3 Every affiliated and applicant Federation shall include in its own Constitution, the following provisions:
  - a) "the Federation is legally constituted and recognized by the official sports authorities of its country or territory as the sole entity competent to administer and govern Volleyball at the national level"; and
  - b) "by virtue of its legal powers, the Federation declares that the AVC Constitution, Regulations, rules and decisions are considered as part of its own Constitution and they are to be compulsorily respected by the Federation, by all its members and by third parties involved in Volleyball matters except if otherwise authorized by the AVC".

The non-inclusion of the provisions mentioned above in the Constitution of an affiliated NF, does not preclude its binding nature. Any controversy arising from the non-inclusion of the provisions mentioned above may lead to sanctions being imposed on the concerned affiliated NF.

- 1.3.4 The application for affiliation shall be accompanied by:
  - a) the text of the applicant Federation's own Constitution;
  - b) a certificate from the National Olympic Committee (NOC) recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), or as the case may be, the National Sports Organization which comprises the NFs governing the various sports disciplines, stating that the applicant Federation is recognized as the highest Volleyball authority in its country or territory;
  - c) the list of the Executive Committee members, the name and address of the person entrusted with official correspondence with the FIVB and other affiliated Federations; and
  - d) proof of payment of the first annual fee to the respective Confederation.

## 1.4 PROCEDURE OF RESIGNATION

- 1.4.1 Any affiliated NF may resign in accordance with its own Constitution.
- 1.4.2 Any such NF advises the Board of Administration by a first registered letter, confirmed three (3) months later by another registered letter.
- 1.4.3 The Board of Administration may reject the resignation of an NF if its obligations, especially financial, towards the various FIVB institutions or other affiliated Federations are not fulfilled.
- 1.4.4 The rights and obligations of the resigning Federation cease when the decision becomes effective.
- 1.4.5 The resigning Federation shall have no claim on the assets of the AVC, its officials, institutions and affiliated Federations.
- 1.4.6 The affiliation to another Volleyball organization not recognized by the AVC or the granting of a "Power of Attorney" with the purpose of bringing legal action not

provided in the AVC Constitution or Regulations against the AVC, its Zonal Association and/or National Federations is considered a "de facto" resignation from any position or capacity within the AVC. The AVC may set a final deadline for the person/entity to retract its action(s), failing which the Board of Administration (or the Congress, where applicable) may impose sanctions for an institutional offence in accordance with the Disciplinary Regulations.

## 1.5 COMMITMENTS OF AN NF

- 1.5.1 The NFs affiliated to the AVC, in the context of their activities, responsibilities and prerogatives in connection with the practice of Volleyball, are obliged at all times, and without restriction, to respect and apply the rules, decisions and sports practices established for the world sports structures recognized by the IOC, and in particular those fixed by the AVC Constitution, Regulations, rules and decisions. An NF not complying with the AVC Constitution shall lose all its rights and will be suspended.
- 1.5.2 Without affecting the general implication of Article 1.5.1 above, the NFs must apply "mutatis mutandis" all the provisions of the AVC Constitution and Regulations when electing their officials.
- 1.5.3 Should the AVC be of the opinion that the legal and administrative requirements of the AVC have not been respected by an NF during an election or when taking or rendering a decision, the AVC may not recognize such election or decision.
- 1.5.4 The NFs and their officials shall, at all times, be respected representatives of the Volleyball family and have a conduct which shall not be prejudicial to the image of the AVC.
- 1.5.5 The AVC affiliated NFs are obliged to participate in the AVC General Assembly. Those NFs which will not be present or represented at a General Assembly will not receive any technical or financial support from the AVC for the next two-year period. They will regain AVC support by attending the following Congress.
- 1.5.6 Each NF taking part in international competitions must have, in close cooperation with the national authorities concerned, an out-of- competition anti-doping testing program in accordance with the World Anti-Doping Code published by WADA (World Anti-Doping Agency).
- 1.5.7 The AVC and the NFs must implement the following principles:
  - a) to concentrate efforts on highly competitive Volleyball for spectators;
  - b) to create, promote and sell top Volleyball events and strongly support countries and clubs or zonal associations which are working hard to reach a higher competitive level;
  - c) to measure the success of national and international Volleyball events in terms of spectators, sponsors, television broadcasting and news people attending; and

- d) to measure organizational, administrative and management qualifications and capabilities only by results, and not in relation to political, personal or financial considerations.
- 1.5.8 The NFs are obliged to register with the FIVB any National League operating in the country. Such Leagues shall receive FIVB recognition under its regulations, including the transfer regulations. NFs must establish fair play and fair competition terms when regulating and promoting Volleyball competitions in their country in order to ensure that teams and players receive equal treatment.
  - a) The receiving NFs are obliged to register in FIVB, through an FIVB International Transfer Certificate all foreign players participating in their National Leagues subject to the provisions of the FIVB Sports-, Financial- and Disciplinary Regulations.
  - b) The NFs of origin must remit the FIVB International Transfer Certificate and ensure that the receiving NF submits it to the FIVB for the registration of their foreign players participating in their National Leagues and that it complies with the FIVB Regulations, and is duly completed.
  - c) Subject to sanctions for a major offense by the FIVB in accordance with the FIVB Disciplinary Regulations, the receiving NFs shall be responsible for the respect of all technical conditions (e.g. period of transfer, release for national team etc.) established in the International Transfer Certificate and must ensure, under their responsibility, that the receiving club that engages a foreign player, complies with all the Terms and Conditions established in the FIVB International Transfer Certificate.

## 1.6 CHANGES OF EXECUTIVES IN NFS

- 1.6.1 A NF should elect its President and Executive officers for at least a four-year (4) term of office.
- 1.6.2 In order to maintain its active status, an NF elective General Assembly must be chaired by its President. The minutes of the Assembly including the list of elected officials, together with the list of delegates and an official copy of the "call for elections" shall be transmitted to the AVC no later than thirty (30) days after the Assembly is held. The minutes must be co-signed by the outgoing and newly elected President. If the outgoing President has resigned, the letter of his resignation should be included in the minutes.
- 1.6.3 In case of doubt, the AVC may request explanations or make enquiries before granting recognition. Should the outgoing President fail to sign the minutes, then evidence of the request made to him for his signature in due time and form must be included.
- 1.6.4 The current President or Executive Committee members of a NF may not be dismissed by an authority other than the NF itself. In the event that this occurs, the AVC may not recognize the new officials elected or appointed to the NF and may suspend the NF until the situation is resolved in a manner prescribed by the AVC.

# **Article 2**

# **AVC Board of Administration (Board)**

## 2.1 MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION

- 2.1.1 Except the President (who is elected in accordance with Article 13 of the AVC Constitution), the members of the Board of Administration are elected for a four-year (4) term starting immediately after the closure of the General Assembly held during the year of the Summer Olympic Games.
- 2.1.2 The employees of the AVC Secretariat or of a Confederation cannot be members of the Board of Administration.
- 2.1.3 Board of Administration members, in addition to being eligible for the Executive Committee, may be members of one (1) of the Councils and/or one (1) of the Committees.
- 2.1.4 The Presidents of Councils and Committees may attend, by invitation, the Executive Committee or the Board of Administration meeting in a non-voting capacity and are allowed to speak whenever a subject within their competence is being discussed.
- 2.1.5 If a position of Board of Administration member becomes vacant, it may be filled in accordance with Article 14 of the AVC Constitution.

## 2.2 MEMBERSHIP CONDITIONS

- 2.2.1 Every affiliated National Federation up to date in its obligations and financial commitments as an AVC member is entitled to present only one (1) candidate of each gender to membership of the AVC Board of Administration.
- 2.2.2 In order to become a Board of Administration member, a candidate shall not be aged less than twenty (20) years old or more than sixty (60) years old in the case of first-time candidates.
- 2.2.3 A candidate for the Board of Administration, including candidates for the AVC President, must pass an integrity check defined in Article 2.4.1.1(b) of the FIVB Constitution in accordance with the FIVB Rules on the Integrity Check of Candidates (Appendix 1) and, if elected, must continue to satisfy the substantive provisions defined therein throughout his or her term of office.
- 2.2.4 The late arrival of a member for Board of Administration meetings, except for cases of force majeure, is considered as an absence.
- 2.2.5 AVC Board of Administration, Executive Committee, Councils and Committee members not attending meetings in full are considered as absence (not excused), even if they are absent for only half a day. After being considered twice as absent, the member may be excluded from the Board of Administration, Executive Committee,

- Council or Committee. In such case, he/she may continue to serve or other AVC institutions if his/her attendance record on the latter allows it.
- 2.2.6 Subject to the provisions of the Constitution and of other AVC Regulations, a Board of Administration member remains member of the Board of Administration unless he is suspended by his National Federation and the AVC Board of Administration approves such decision.

#### 2.3 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION

- 2.3.1 The Board of Administration's responsibilities are provided in the AVC Constitution (see in particular Article 22 of the AVC Constitution). It may be charged with the interpretation of the Constitution.
- 2.3.2 If consensus cannot be obtained, the decisions of the Board of Administration are taken by a vote. A three-quarters (3/4) majority is required for proposing amendments to the Constitution and the expulsion of players and officials. Other decisions are taken by simple majority vote.
- 2.3.3 Notice of meeting, agenda, technical and administrative documents to be discussed by the Board of Administration are prepared by the Secretariat and sent to members as follows:
  - a) notice of meeting at least two (2) months prior to the date of the meeting; and
  - b) agenda, technical and administrative documents at least one (1) week prior to the date of the meeting.
- 2.3.4 Upon request of the President, the Board of Administration may vote by correspondence also.
- 2.3.5 The Board of Administration reviews any change related to rules (playing and scoring) of the game of Volleyball and Beach Volleyball that have been previously discussed by the Rules of the Game and Refereeing Commission and the Sports Events Council or respectively by the Beach Volleyball World Tour and World Championships Council approved by FIVB Such changes must be presented to the FIVB Congress for approval before entering into force. Any other change affecting the image of Volleyball, the look of the playing court or of the players and administrative or protocol questions will be decided by the Board of Administration and reported to the next Congress.

# **Article 3**

# **AVC Executive Committee and AVC President**

As provided for in the preamble of the Constitution, the term "Executive authority" used in these General Regulations shall apply to both the Executive Committee and the Presidency, except when otherwise stipulated.

# 3.1 COMPOSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The composition of the Executive Committee is described in Article 25 of the AVC Constitution.

#### 3.2 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS AS EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

FIVB Executive Committee members are, by their own right, ex-officio members of the Board / Executive Committee of their own Zonal Associations.

# 3.3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- 3.3.1 The members of the Executive Committee are charged with the responsibilities provided in the AVC Constitution (see in particular Article 25 (6) of the AVC Constitution), either individually on account of their office or collectively,
- 3.3.2 Members of the Executive Committee are not allowed to be present during the consideration of matters in which they or their NF are concerned.
- 3.3.3 The Executive Committee fixes the dates and places of its meetings and those of the Councils and Committees.

# 3.4 AVC PRESIDENT

3.4.1 Pre-requisites/conditions for candidates to the position of the President

The Integrity Check must approve candidates to the position of the AVC President. The requirements of the Constitution and of the General Regulations are satisfied by each candidate in particular that:

- a) the candidate is the outgoing President, or a member of the Board at the time that the candidatures for President are submitted to the FIVB;
- b) his candidacy has been presented in due time by his National Federation eventually accompanied by the candidate's Volleyball background mentioning the following aspects:
- Years involved in Volleyball activities as a FIVB member.
- Contributions made to the sport as organizer of International Volleyball Competitions.
- FIVB events in which he has been involved as Organizer, Control Committee member or in any other function.
- Professional experience in finance, marketing and legal affairs.

- Working languages fluently spoken by the candidate.

All candidates satisfying the constitutional requirements may be submitted to the General Assembly preferably, but not compulsorily, with their Volleyball sports background.

- 3.4.2 The competence and responsibilities of the AVC President are established in Article 19 of the AVC Constitution.
- 3.4.3 The President may assign to an Executive Committee and/or Board of Administration (see Article 2.1.6 above) member a specific assignment according to their capabilities and field of expertise. Specific assignments may concern among other:
  - a) Communication, image of the AVC, public relations;
  - b) TV, marketing and sponsorship;
  - c) Volleyball and Beach Volleyball competitions;
  - d) finances;
  - e) Volleyball Cooperation Programs;
  - f) development of the sport of Volleyball;
  - g) Volleyball Nation Leagues and
  - h) general affairs.

# 3.5 FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

- 3.5.1 The First Vice President assists the President in the exercise of his/her duties and responsibilities. On the proposal of the President, the Executive Committee assigns to him/her certain specific functions.
- 3.5.2 In accordance with the provisions of Article 20 of the AVC Constitution, the First Vice President shall replace the President should the latter become unable to carry out his functions.
- 3.5.3 Jointly with the President, the First Vice President represents the AVC in international sports organizations, including the IOC, and coordinates activities not entrusted to other Executive Vice- Presidents. He proposes to the President the official protocol for AVC events, General Assembly and meetings.

# 3.6 EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT

- 3.6.1 The Executive Vice-President assists the President in the exercise of his duties and responsibilities. On the proposal of the President, the Executive Committee assigns to him certain specific functions.
- 3.6.2 In accordance with the provisions of Article 20 of the AVC Constitution, the Executive Vice-President shall replace the First Vice-President should the latter become unable to carry out his functions.

## 3.7 TREASURER/EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT

- 3.7.1 Together with the President, the Treasurer is responsible for the preparation of the budgets and their strict respect.
- 3.7.2 The Treasurer will advise the President and the AVC Accountant on the preparation of the monthly and yearly cash flow.
- 3.7.3 The Treasurer must assure the registration and accounting control of revenue as stipulated in all contracts and related documents and report immediately his findings and discrepancies to the AVC President.
- 3.7.4 Jointly with the President, the Treasurer is entitled to propose to the AVC Executive Committee the approval of the AVC Directors salaries, consultants' fees and the payment of committees, bonuses or rewards in strict compliance with the AVC Constitution and Regulations.
- 3.7.5 The Executive Committee will secure the necessary financial means (indemnity) for the Treasurer to fulfil his functions without any restriction.

# 3.8 EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENTS AND EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

In accordance with the President's assignments, as provided for in Article 20 and 25(6) of the Constitution, the Executive Vice-Presidents and Executive members shall assist the President in his/ her duties by performing certain functions, including but not limited to:

- a) supervising the execution of regional programs, designed for the development of Volleyball;
- b) proposing publicity campaigns and implementing special sponsorship,
   marketing and public relations activities designed to enhance the image of
   Volleyball;
- c) establishing contact with mass media and broadcasting agencies and studying methods of concentrating information on the NFs, clubs, competitions, etc.;
- d) supervising competitions, more specifically the Continental Championships and ensuring that the organizers fulfil the conditions laid down in various AVC Regulations and decisions;
- e) coordinating the activities of the various Councils and Committees, studying and proposing the necessary measures to facilitate them to carry out their functions in an efficient and timely manner;
- f) executing the technical programs and providing assistance to the NFs, and Zonal Associations;
- g) approving the budgets and the economic forecast of the AVC revenue and expenditures and controlling the finance reports and the account auditing;
- h) undertaking the responsibility of development plans;

- i) executing the programs aiming at the development of Beach Volleyball, the Volleyball Nation Leagues, all international competitions and continental events; and
- j) providing assistance to the Volleyball Cooperation Program and Development Centers.

# 3.9 FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- 3.9.1 Jointly with the President, the Treasurer shall check the budget and investment program before they are submitted to the approval of the Finance Committee.
- 3.9.2 Jointly with the President, the Treasurer is responsible for the AVC accounts.
- 3.9.3 The Treasurer, assisted by the AVC Accountant and based on the balance sheet and profit and loss statement shall establish a report on income and expenditure and on the statement of accounts in order to submit them to the approval of the Finance Committee, the President, and the Board of Administration.
- 3.9.4 The Treasurer shall check the respect of financial procedures of payments made by the AVC Accountant and report on them to the Executive Committee.

# **Article 4**

# **Zonal Associations**

#### 4.1 LIST OF ZONAL VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

- 4.1.1 After consultation with the concerned Zonal Associations, the Board of Administration shall submit for approval by the General Assembly the list of countries or territories incorporated in the following Zonal Associations:
  - a. the Central Zonal Volleyball Association
  - b. the Eastern Zonal Volleyball Association
  - c. the Oceania Zonal Volleyball Association
  - d. the Southeastern Zonal Volleyball Association
  - e. the Western Zonal Volleyball Association
- 4.1.2 The NFs are grouped in Zonal Associations, on the basis of geographical proximity.
  Zonal Associations must accept NFs affiliated with the AVC as members and assigned to them by the AVC Secretariat.

## 4.2 STATUTES OF A ZONAL ASSOCIATION

- 4.2.1 The Statutes, Regulations and decisions of the Zonal Association must be approved by the AVC Board of Administration and follow the general principles and provisions of the AVC Constitution.
  - a) The Statutes of each Confederation shall include the following article "[Please insert acronym of the Zonal Association], in the context of its activities, responsibilities and prerogatives in connection with the practice of Volleyball, is obliged at all times, and without restriction, to respect and apply the Rules, decisions and sports practices established for the world sports structures recognized by the IOC, and in particular those fixed by the AVC, to coordinate the activities of Volleyball internationally."
  - b) The Zonal Associations' legal personality can only apply to internal administrative affairs and cannot be opposable to AVC authority and decisions.
  - c) The Statutes must also include Articles 2.10.1.4, 2.10.1.5, 2.10.2.3 and 2.10.4 of the FIVB Constitution.
  - d) The Statutes must also include Articles 4.2.1 (a, b), 4.3.1, 4.3.4, 4.6.3, 4.7.1, and 4.8.1 (b, c) and 4.9 of the FIVB General Regulations.
- 4.2.2 The Zonal Associations are recommended to adopt the full text of the FIVB Constitution and Regulations as the texts of their own Statutes and Regulations.
- 4.2.3 The Zonal Associations submit their Statutes and Regulations to the AVC Board of Administration which consults the FIVB Legal Department regarding their

- conformity with the FIVB and AVC Constitution and Regulations prior to approving them.
- 4.2.4 The AVC must provide the Zonal Associations with support and assistance, including basic financial support for their initial infrastructure, as per the conditions set forth in the AVC Financial Regulations.

#### 4.3 JURISDICTION

- 4.3.1 Zonal Associations are supporting institutions of the AVC As such, it is their responsibility and duty to implement the Constitution, Regulations, decisions and administrative actions of the AVC.
- 4.3.2 The Zonal Associations are empowered to impose, within their geographical area of competence, sanctions provided for in the AVC Regulations and arising from their competitions and activities at Zonal level, including, but not limited to, the suspension of leagues, clubs, teams, players and officials.
- 4.3.3 The Zonal Associations and their bodies should adhere to AVC Rules and Regulations and comply with their structures, respecting the competence of the National Federations.
- 4.3.4 The Zonal Associations shall include in their Constitution a clause stipulating that the Court of Arbitration for Sport is the last instance appeals body for decisions taken by the Zonal Associations after exhaustion of FIVB internal legal remedies.
- 4.3.5 The AVC Secretariat has delegated powers to follow up the timely implementation by Zonal Associations of their statutory obligations and of the AVC programs approved by the Board of Administration.

## 4.4 CONFLICT OF DECISIONS

- a) The AVC Board of Administration may revise all or part of a decision taken by the Zonal Associations if, in its judgment, such decision is contrary to the Constitution, Regulations, official rules, AVC decisions and general interests of the AVC.
- b) The AVC is fully empowered to take any actions and make decisions regarding disputes within a Zonal Associations.
- c) NFs have the right to request the AVC Board of Administration to revise all or part of a decision made by a Zonal Associations if they consider such decisions to be contrary to the AVC Constitution, Regulations, rules and general interest of the sport.

# 4.5 FUNDAMENTAL OBLIGATIONS

- 4.5.1 The Zonal Associations are the AVC delegated authority in their territory to the extent provided for in the AVC Constitution and must submit to the AVC, before the deadline established by AVC, the following documents:
  - a) the calendar of international competitions and those of its member National Federations;
  - b) the official response or documents required by AVC Regulations and/or requested by the AVC Secretariat.

- 4.5.2 The Zonal Associations must use the financial resources received from The FIVB, AVC or from their own sponsors exclusively for their statutory purposes.
- 4.5.3 The Zonal Associations must remit to the AVC, within three (3) months, the meeting minutes of their Board/ Executive and General Assembly.
- 4.5.4 Upon receipt, the Zonal Associations must forward to the FIVB all documents related to an appeal, candidature or request addressed to the AVC by the National Federations.
- 4.5.5 The Zonal Associations must fully enforce within the scope of their authority, the AVC Constitution, Regulations and decisions of the AVC General Assembly, Executive Committee and Board of Administration.
- 4.5.6 The Zonal Associations are expected to follow up and support the implementation of FIVB programs, providing guidance to NFs for easier implementation of the plans in their territory, according to the principles determined by the AVC.
- 4.5.7 The AVC and FIVB management and administration systems are to be mirrored as much as possible by Zonal Associations receiving AVC and FIVB financial support.
- 4.5.8 The AVC and the Zonal Associations must identify and monitor situations damaging the image of Volleyball as a top doping-free competitive sport and the AVC as its worldwide authority, taking the necessary measures to avert such situations.

## 4.6 GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF A ZONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- 4.6.1 The General Assembly is a Zonal Associations' supreme authority under the terms of the FIVB and AVC Constitution and these Regulations as follows:
  - a) The decisions made by the General Assembly of a Zonal Associations must be respected by its member Federations.
  - b) The Zonal Associations General Assembly decisions may not conflict with those of the AVC General Assembly or Board of Administration.
  - c) The General Assembly shall apply "mutatis mutandis" the AVC Rules of Procedure of the AVC General Assembly.
- 4.6.2 The Zonal Associations' General Assembly shall be held preferably every year but at least every four (4) years. An elective General Assembly must be held during the year of the Summer Olympic Games and between three (3) months and four (4) months prior to the AVC elective General Assembly.
- 4.6.3 The President of the AVC has the power to co-chair any meeting of the Zonal Associations, including the General Assembly.

## 4.7 BOARD / EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF A ZONAL ASSOCIATION

4.7.1 At the session of a Zonal Associations' General Assembly held the year before the elective AVC GENERAL ASSEMBLY (see Article 4.6.2 above), the NFs- members of the said Zonal Associations shall elect their Board/ Executive Committee for the next four (4) years under the following principles:

- a) The Board/ Executive Committee shall be composed of no less than five (5) members.
- b) The provisions of Article 13 of the AVC Constitution, providing requirements for the election to the AVC Board of Administration, shall apply "mutatis mutandis" to the elections of the Board/ Executive Committee of a Zonal Association.
- c) AVC Executive Committee members are ex-officio members of the Board/ Executive Committee of their Zonal Associations.
- d) AVC Executive Committee members shall remain in function and retain their eligibility regardless of the position of their NFs.
- e) The election of a President of a Zonal Association shall be compulsorily supervised by a member of the AVC Executive Committee not from the same Zonal Association, who will verify the correct interpretation of the Zonal Association Statutes and that of the AVC Constitution and Regulations, and ensure that elections are held in accordance with these rules and principles.
- 4.7.2 The Zonal Association Board/ Executive Committee shall have the same competence and responsibilities within its Zonal Associations as those held by both the AVC Board of Administration and Executive Committee except that:
  - a) in accordance with its Constitution, only the AVC is entitled to suspend directly an NF from participation in competitions.
  - b) Zonal Associations may request the AVC to suspend any NF from participation in AVC and Confederation General Assembly if such NF has failed to pay its AVC and FIVB annual fee to the Confederation for a period of three years.
  - c) Confederations may also request the FIVB to suspend an NF from participation in competitions.
- 4.7.3 Each Zonal Association must dedicate at least one full day of its annual Board/ Executive Committee meeting to evaluate its own performance with respect to AVC projects underway and raise any doubts with the AVC representative present.
- 4.7.4 Such Board/ Executive Committee meeting must have the participation, at the AVC's expense, of one AVC Executive Vice-President and one member of the AVC Board of Administration from the same Zonal Association.

# 4.8 ZONAL ASSOCIATION COMMITTEES

- 4.8.1 A Zonal Association's General Assembly or Board/ Executive Committee may establish standing or temporary committees with the same basic structure as those of the AVC:
  - a) Each Zonal Association may have at least a Finance, a Refereeing, an Development Committee (or a Working Group) and a Sports Events Council, as well as any other committee in line with AVC, except a Rules of the Game Committee and a continental appeals tribunal.
  - b) AVC Commission members shall become ex-officio members of the corresponding Zonal Association Committees.

4.8.2 The Zonal Association Committees shall have the same activities and responsibilities as those of the AVC Committees which are provided for in Article 37 of the AVC Constitution and Article 5 of these Regulations.

# 4.9 MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS AND DECISIONS

The Zonal Association shall send to the AVC the minutes of the meetings of their General Assembly and Board/ Executive Committee within three (3) months of the closing of the meeting to which the minutes apply.

## 4.10 ESTABLISHMENT OF ZONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- 4.10.1 The FIVB may support sports activities of Zonal Associations founded on the basis of geographical, linguistic or cultural links and composed of NFs, provided they have first obtained the approval of FIVB and of their Confederations.
- 4.10.2 Zonal Associations must refrain from any prejudices of a political, religious or racial nature and must respect the authority of their respective Confederations as well as the principles and provisions of the FIVB Constitution and Regulations.
- 4.10.3 Once approved by the FIVB and respective Confederations, the Zonal Associations are responsible, in their respective zone, for:
  - a) spreading the practice of local, national and regional Volleyball competitions;
  - b) encouraging the creation of NFs and their affiliation to the FIVB;
  - c) ensuring the respect of the FIVB Constitution, Regulations, rules and decisions and those of their Confederations;
  - d) organizing zonal championships;
  - e) drawing up an annual calendar of activities including international competitions, submitting it to their Confederations and to the relevant FIVB institutions for approval; and
  - f) presenting an annual administrative report to the FIVB and to their Confederations, comprising, in particular, the sports results of their international competitions.

# 4.10.4 Recognition

The Zonal Associations may be recognized if:

- a) Their statutes have been previously reviewed by their Confederation concerned and afterwards approved by the FIVB.
- b) their activities are purely for the purpose of raising their sports level and they do not jeopardize or undermine the authority of their Confederation; and
- c) their creation is beyond any political or discriminative implications.

# 4.10.5 Functioning

- a) The Zonal Associations are composed of NFs incorporated in a specific Confederation and, therefore, shall function according to the Regulations approved by the said Confederation and the FIVB.
- b) To be a member of a Zonal Association, an NF should share a geographical proximity with other NFs.
- c) It is recommended that the National Federations of a Zonal Association have as much as possible similar technical level to compete in the World Championship Qualification process and/or Continental Championships.

# **Article 5**

# **AVC Committees & Council**

The committees shall meet at least once (1) a year under the direction of the AVC President, to discuss reports of activities carried out during the previous year; projects and proposals presented to the commissions and the yearly, biennial and quadrennial working programs. The committees may undertake any other tasks as requested by the AVC President or the Executive Committee or the Board of Administration.

## 5.1 REQUIREMENTS TO BECOME MEMBER OF A COMMITTEE

The following constitutes the basic membership requirements for any of the committees:

- 5.1.1 To have an extensive knowledge of the FIVB and AVC, its institutions, its activities and its operations;
- 5.1.2 To have a complete knowledge of the specific operations of the committees for which the candidates wish to become members;
- 5.1.3 To have personal national or international experience and the required expertise for the specific competence of the committees;
- 5.1.4 To have a college or university degree or an equivalent professional experience within the public and private sector in relation with the activities of the committee;
- 5.1.5 To comply with the policy guidance established by the Board of Administration as per the provisions of Article 2.4.2.3 of the FIVB Constitution;
- 5.1.6 To speak at least one of the two (2) FIVB working languages: English or French;
- 5.1.7 To dispose freely of a minimum of thirty (30) days per year, in separate periods, to accomplish the duties of their respective committees and attend meetings or competitions;
- 5.1.8 Never to have been suspended by the FIVB and AVC;
- 5.1.9 To belong to an NF represented at the last General Assembly.

# 5.2 COMPOSITION

A minimum of five (5) Members and one (1) President of each of the committee shall be nominated by the Board of Administration as provided for in Article 37 of the AVC Constitution. The President and Secretary of a committees are appointed by the Board of Administration on proposal of the AVC President. All Zonal Associations shall be represented in each committee.

## 5.3 OFFICIALS OF THE COMMITTEES

- 5.3.1 The Presidents, Secretaries and members of committees are nominated by the Board of Administration for a four-year (4) period, after the General Assembly held during the year of the Summer Olympic Games.
- 5.3.2 Whenever a member of a committees cannot hold office, another member proposed by the FIVB President shall replace him. This substitution will take effect after ratification by the next Board of Administration meeting.

#### 5.4 COMPETENCE OF THE OFFICIALS

- 5.4.1 The Committees President shall:
  - a) preside and conduct the meetings;
  - b) represent his / her committee;
  - c) coordinate its activities; and
  - d) report to the Executive Committee or the Board of Administration on the work performed.
- 5.4.2 The Committee Secretary shall:
  - a) prepare the minutes of the meetings and the reports for the Board of Administration; and
  - b) present to the AVC Secretariat the expense vouchers approved by the Committee President.
- 5.4.3 The committee members shall:
  - a) seek administrative support from the AVC Secretariat; and
  - b) coordinate their activities with the AVC Secretariat.
- 5.4.4 All financial matters concerning the committees will be settled in accordance with the AVC General Regulations and Financial Regulations, as approved by the Board of Administration.

# 5.5 LIST OF THE COMMITTEES & COUNCIL

The Board of Administration created the following committees:

- a) Development & Marketing Committee;
- b) Finance Committee;
- c) Medical Committee;
- d) Refereeing Committee;
- e) Coaching Committee;
- f) Beach Volleyball Committee;
- g) Sports Events Council

## 5.6 SPECIFIC COMPETENCE OF THE COMMISSIONS

5.6.1 Development & Marketing Committee

The Development Committees shall have the following terms of reference:

- a) development of the Volleyball community through promoting its
   unity and consolidating the Mission of the AVC and FIVB World
   Vision through:
  - Activating programs of management education under set principles and programs for National Federations and Zonal Associations;
  - Promotion of a common Volleyball culture through networking and sharing of objectives.
- b) development of Volleyball by assisting National Federations to achieve their highest potential and improve their standards in the areas of national competition, international participation, funding, development programs, management and media through:
  - Volleyball Cooperation Programs;
  - Development Centres;
  - Programs for all forms of Volleyball.
- c) to support Volleyball activities designed to develop a lasting legacy for communities and individuals through:
  - Women's programs;
  - Youth programs;
  - Cooperation with governmental and non-governmental agencies on humanitarian and social issues;
  - NFs' social responsibility.
- d) to review any request for the development fund coming from FIVB, or from Zonal Associations and National Federations through their Zonal Associations;
- e) to fix the financial support for each project, as well as the initial financial support for the start of the project, to be approved by the Board of Administration; and
- f) to request a regular report (at least every 6 months) about the progress of the projects.

## 5.6.2 Finance Committee

The Finance Committee shall have the following terms of reference:

a) to study AVC financial status and submit a report to the Executive Committee;

- b) to approve the annual balance of accounts and the report on them presented by the Treasurer;
- c) to verify the budgets prepared by the AVC Finance Department and approved by the AVC President and the Treasurer and submit them to the Executive Committee for approval, then to the Board of Administration for approval;
- d) to submit to the AVC Executive Committee the annual financial report prepared under the supervision of the AVC Finance Department; and
- e) to advise the President and/or the Executive Committee on new investments and sources of income, as well as on proposals for the reduction or modification of expenditure;

## 5.6.3 Medical Commission

The Medical Commission shall have the following terms of reference:

- a) to disseminate among coaches and Volleyball players the basic medical information for prevention and treatment of the most common injuries caused in the course of playing Volleyball;
- b) to draft the principles and verify the conditions under which the organizers of competitions shall undertake and plan the preparation of food, hygiene, medical care and medical emergency services for players and participants;
- c) to supervise medical assistance to players during competitions;
- d) to supervise the organization and ensure the doping control and gender verification of players if required, as well as medical control of the referees during competitions;
- e) to revise and update the FIVB Medical Regulations in line with the WADA Code and latest developments in the field of sports medicine;
- f) to maintain permanent contact and cooperation with the international organizations of sports medicine, particularly with the IOC Medical Commission and the International Federation of Sports Medicine;
- g) to select a group of doctors specializing in sports medicine applied to Volleyball in order to consider them as lecturers at courses or symposia organized by an NF under the supervision of the Committee;
- h) to evaluate new findings, theories and scientific studies made in the medical and physiological area of sports training and teaching; and
- i) to appoint one of the Medical Committee members as a member of the Disciplinary Panel which hears cases of anti- doping rule violations.

# 5.6.4 Refereeing Committee

Refereeing Committee shall have the following terms of reference:

- a) to draft the official text of the Volleyball Rules in English and submit it to the Executive Committee and Board of Administration;
- b) to obtain from the Confederations and FIVB Commissions all possible facts and opinions on proposed rule changes before presentation to the Board of Administration;
- c) to make tests and practical studies before proposing changes to the Volleyball Rules of the Game;
- d) to ensure respect of the official text of the Volleyball Rules of the Game through studies and decisions on practical problems of the application of the said Rules;
- e) to maintain a unified interpretation of the Volleyball Rules of the Game throughout the world;
- f) to seek the improvement of the qualifications and knowledge of International Referees;
- g) to determine the teaching program, material and documents deemed necessary for the qualification of International Referees;
- h) to maintain and up-date once (1) a year the list of the different categories of active International Referees, including FIVB Referees;
- i) to submit an annual list of International Referees to the Executive Committee and Board of Administration:
- j) to supervise the organization of courses for candidate International Referees and the instructors responsible for the preparation and education of referees in cooperation with NFs authorized to organize such courses;
- k) to set up and submit, to the Executive Committee and Board of Administration, the standard rules for refereeing courses;
- I to study and publicize the experience obtained during refereeing courses and competitions concerning the theory and practice of refereeing;
- m) to advise the NFs on the setting-up of national programs aimed at improving the qualifications of national referees and to establish the appropriate guidelines; and
- n) to propose to the AVC President the nomination for International Referees for AVC Competitions.

## 5.6.5 Coaching Committee

The Coaching Committee shall have the following terms of reference:

a) to prepare informative, explanatory bulletins, pamphlets, other printed material, films, video tapes and special teaching equipment for Volleyball administrators, coaches, referees, instructors and mini-Volley experts;

- b) to initiate projects to be undertaken in the education and sports training sectors;
- to inform the NFs on the material and equipment required for the preparation of courses and training of teams at all levels;
- d) to supervise the coaches' and administrators' courses, through special visits of one (1) of its members or through the normal experts, and report to the Executive Committee;
- e) to prepare the program of international courses for NF managers and set up guidelines on the required characteristics of the various lecturers as well as of the teaching materials;
- f) jointly with the AVC Secretariat, to determine the teaching subjects which should be included in the courses of the Development Centres and the required teaching material and equipment;
- g) to obtain promotional material for recreational Volleyball activities, including Mini-Volley;
- h) to test and approve the equipment and material needed in order to keep conditions ideal for the game;
- i) to study and determine the testing procedures for approval of Volleyball equipment and material including, but not limited to balls, posts, nets, referee chairs, linesmen's flags, antennae, synthetic floors, lighting, electric and manual scoreboard, substitution plaques and material such as films, slides, video tapes, brochures, books;
- j) to study and approve the minimal technical standards for competition halls and to obtain for publication the designs and plans on the construction of competition halls, lighting systems, models of material and auxiliary equipment for training and competition;
- k) to help the National Federations prepare a basic program for national courses for school teachers;
- I) to prepare, in collaboration with the Development committee,

informative and explanatory bulletins, pamphlets, or other printed material, films, video tapes and special teaching equipment, as needed for any Development Plan, to be used by coaches, instructors, and all people involved in the promotion of Volleyball at school;

- m) to inform the National Federations of the material and equipment required for the preparation of courses and training of teams at school level;
- n) to seek the improvement of the qualifications and knowledge of coaches;
- o) to advise the NFs on the setting-up of national programs aimed at improving the qualifications of national coaches and instructors;

- p) to supervise the organization of courses and conferences aimed at the preparation of instructors, monitors and coaches in cooperation with NFs and whenever requested by Confederations, and authorize the issue of certificates at the appropriate level;
- q) to set up and submit to the Executive Committee and Board of Administration the rules for coaches courses;
- r) to study the background of experts from the various continents and select the most highly qualified and duly certified in different levels and languages, in order to submit their names to the Executive Committee for their inclusion in the list of official instructors for conducting coaches courses;
- s) to supervise the preparation of audio-visual teaching materials such as manuals, slides, video tapes, films, posters, etc.;
- t) to supervise the preparation and organization of symposia and other meetings aimed at discussing or analyzing the technical findings and new experiences and to offer the needed support to the organizing NF;
- u) to monitor, follow up and report individual, national or international scientific research, investigations and studies as well as demonstration matches aimed at improving methods of play and training;
- v) to keep up to date the statistical evaluation of players and teams performance in competitions; and
- w) to supervise and control the application of the statistical evaluation of players in cooperation with the organizers of competitions.

## 5.6.6 Beach Volleyball Commission

The Beach Volleyball Committee shall have the following terms of reference:

- a) to develop and to organize Beach Volleyball development programs of AVC and worldwide outside the World Tour and World Championships properties.
- b) in cooperation with the Zonal Associations, to set up the yearly, biennial and quadrennial official calendar of international Beach Volleyball Competitions to be presented to the Executive Committee and Board of Administration;
- c) to keep up to date the Competition Regulations, the Specific Regulations and sanctions for Beach Volleyball to be presented to the Executive Committee and Board of Administration;
- d) to assist the AVC Beach Volleyball Department with the preparation of the yearly Handbook;
- e) to follow up and control the preparation of the organization of all AVC, world and official competitions with the logistical assistance of the Secretariat;

- f) to present reports to the Executive Committee and Board of Administration on the progress of all technical plans, programs and regulations by the organizers of AVC, world and official competitions;
- g) to set up guidelines for the issue of documents and daily bulletins containing information on the results and staging of AVC, world and official competitions;
- h) to seek administrative support from and coordinate its activities with the AVC and FIVB Beach Volleyball Department Directors;
- i) to submit to the General Assembly no later than six (6) months prior to its opening a detailed activity program for the two (2) following fiscal years as well as proposals, which must have been previously approved by the Board of Administration; and
- j) to meet once a year to discuss reports of the activities carried out the previous year, the projects or proposals presented to the Committee and the yearly, biennial and quadrennial working program.

# 5.6.7 SPORTS EVENTS COUNCIL

The Sports Events Council is composed of a Chairperson, a Secretary, the five (5) Zonal Association representatives.

The Sports Events Council is competent to:

- a) establish the official annual, biennial and quadrennial calendar of international competitions;
- b) keep the AVC Event Regulations and the FIVB Sports Regulations up to date;
- c) keep the FIVB World Rankings up to date, establishing the guidelines and attribution of points;
- d) establish the specific Competition Regulations for AVC Competitions with the logistical assistance of the AVC Sports Events Department;
- e) monitor the preparation and organization of AVC Competitions with the logistical assistance of the AVC Sports Events Department;
- f) present reports to the Executive Committee and Board of Administration on the progress of all operational plans by the organizers of AVC Competitions;
- g) establish guidelines for the staging of AVC and Official Competitions as required;
- h) assist in the development of National Leagues;
- i) regulate the registration and control of the transfer of players according to the Sports Regulations;
- j) supervise all matters in connection with players' agents; and

k) undertake any other tasks as requested by the Executive Committee or the Board of Administration.

# 5.7 ROLE OF THE AVC SECRETARIAT IN RELATION TO THE COMMITTEES & COUNCIL

- 5.7.1 The Committees & Council shall be assisted by the AVC Secretariat for all administrative and financial matters including, but not limited to, the scheduling of meetings, the control and verification of expenditure, the assignment of specific tasks and responsibilities.
- 5.7.2 The AVC Secretariat shall provide proper assistance, guidelines and sufficient resources needed by the Committees & Council to fulfil their responsibilities.

# **Article 6**

# **AVC Secretariat**

#### 6.1 UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE AVC PRESIDENT

The AVC Secretariat, acting under the authority and management of the AVC President, shall take all necessary measures to ensure that the AVC Constitution and Regulations are respected. It shall provide support and assistance to the various Institutions of the AVC in order to promote the technical level, image and moral implication of Volleyball at the highest level.

## 6.2 THE FUNCTIONS OF THE SECRETARIAT

The functions of the Secretariat shall be to:

- a) plan and organize the meetings of the General Assembly, Board of Administration, Executive Committee, Council and Committees;
- b) prepare the reports for the work of the Committees & Council at their meetings and for the implementation of projects approved by the Board of Administration, and any other reports as required;
- c) study the reports of the various meetings and request from the AVC institutions such further information as it deems necessary to ensure the implementation of the AVC Constitution;
- d) perform the functions entrusted to it under the provisions of the AVC Constitution;
- e) to select and hire, subject to the approval of the President, the requisite staff to execute professionally the decisions of the AVC institutions;
- f) publish periodically and distribute to the NFs and the public, latest editions of all AVC publications, together with any information which will facilitate the development and growth of Volleyball; and
- g) perform any other functions as may be entrusted to it by the General Assembly, the Board of Administration, the Executive Committee and the President.

# Article 7 Entry into force

This text was approved by	the AVC Board	of Administration on	2021	and	shall ent	eı
into force on	2021.					

# **Appendix 1- FIVB Rules on Integrity Check of Candidates**

# 1. General provisions

- 1.1. The FIVB Constitution obliges candidates for the official positions, e.g. FIVB President, FIVB Board of Administration members, FIVB Executive Committee members, within the FIVB to undergo an integrity check.
- 1.2. An integrity check is a process of screening and self-disclosure serving to assess the fitness and propriety of a person to obtain an official position within the FIVB.
- 1.3. The integrity check is conducted by the FIVB Ethics Panel which will decide whether a candidate has successfully passed the integrity check. Regulations on its composition and its terms of reference result from Chapter 2 of the FIVB Disciplinary Regulations.

## 2. Procedural provisions

- 2.1 Upon request of the FIVB Ethics Panel, every individual subject to the integrity check shall submit the completed Integrity Check Questionnaire (see Annex A) and a passport copy providing information verifying the individual's name, country of residence, date and place of birth as well as citizenship.
- The FIVB Ethics Panel may, at its sole discretion request any additional information from the particular individual it deems necessary, for the performance of the integrity check.
- 2.3 The FIVB Ethics Panel may conduct independent research and/or investigations in or- der to obtain further relevant information on a particular individual, which may include information on intermediaries and related parties, mandates, potential conflicts of interests, and significant participations as well as civil and criminal proceedings/investigations.
- 2.4 The FIVB Ethics Panel may, at its sole discretion, in the context of conducting integrity checks, call on external specialized professional resources.
- 2.5 Individuals subject to integrity checks are obliged to collaborate in establishing the relevant facts and to provide truthful information. In particular, they shall
  - 2.5.1 comply, upon reasonable notice, with requests for any documents, information or any other material of any nature held by them or which they are entitled to obtain;
  - 2.5.2 release relevant institutions from any obligation of confidentiality relating to the information requested from these institutions;
  - 2.5.3 notify the FIVB Ethics Panel of any relevant fact or circumstances arising after the integrity check has been completed.

# 3. Substantive provisions

- 3.1 A candidate shall not pass the integrity check, if he or she:
- 3.1.1 is subject to an order by a competent authority that the candidate is lacking in competence to manage its own affairs;

- 3.1.2 is currently the subject of bankruptcy proceedings, has been declared insolvent by a competent authority or is subject to a condition not yet fulfilled or any order under insolvency laws;
- 3.1.3 has been sentenced by a competent authority to imprisonment of more than three (3) months;
- 3.1.4 is prohibited from holding an official position within any sport association or taking part in the management of a company for breach or non-compliance with any law applicable to that candidate;
- 3.1.5 has been convicted by the competent body of any sport association of any major ethical or anti-doping rule violation;
- 3.1.6 if the candidate concerned is found to have committed any other serious mis-conduct which is incompatible with the role of a leading representative of the FIVB.
- 3.1.7 fails to fully comply with the obligations defined in Article 2 above.
- 3.2 Non-compliance with any of the candidates' obligations mentioned under Article 2 above may also lead to sanctions imposed by the FIVB Ethics Panel in accordance with the FIVB Disciplinary Regulations.

# 4. Effect and Appeal

- 4.1 If the FIVB Ethics Panel decides that a candidate has not passed the integrity check, it shall declare the candidate ineligible for the official position he or she seeks to candidate for. A declaration to that effect will have immediate effect from the date that the candidate is notified of the reasoned decision.
- 4.2 An Appeal against the decision of the FIVB Ethics Panel may be submitted exclusively by way of appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland, which will resolve the dispute definitively in accordance with the Code of sports-related arbitration. The time limit for appeal is fourteen (14) days after the reception of the decision with grounds concerning the appeal.

# Integrity check questionnaire

First name(s):		
Surname(s)		
Date of birth:		
Member association:		
Citizenship:		
Profession:		
1		
1.		
	ricted for a cr	riminal offence to imprisonment of more than one (1)
year?		
□ No	☐ Yes	
If yes, please specify:		
2.		
Has any sports body ever rule violations)?	imposed a dis	sciplinary sanction on you (including sanctions for anti- doping
□ No	□ Yes	
If yes, please specify:		
3.		
Are you the subject of any	pending civil	l, criminal or disciplinary proceedings or investigations?
□ No	□ Yes	
If yes, please specify:		

(Place and date)	(Signature)
By signing this document, I declare that I fully comp	ply with such provisions.
I am fully aware and agree that this questionnai Ethics Panel and that I am subject to the provision provisions of the Constitution and other regulation	ns of the FIVB Disciplinary Regulations and to the
7.	
Remarks and observations, which may be of poten	itial relevance in the present context:
6.	
The following facts and circumstances may give ri my services as FIVB official (cf. in particular Section Regulations):	
5.	
I currently hold the following positions related to the	ne sport of volleyball:
4.	