

Australian Beach Volleyball Commission

Summary

The following document serves to outline the structure and purpose of a proposed new body seeking to represent the sport of beach volleyball in Australia. The necessity for the formation of such a body has arisen out of the sport's need to deal with a number of serious problem areas including reduced membership numbers, lack of unified standards of operation and delivery across the States and a broadly perceived lack of equity in the dissemination of policy and opportunities at various levels within the sport.

There are many points that need further clarification however these finer points will be an 'order of business' for the founding group. Clarification and expansion of this initial document will be an ongoing process. Do not consider this initial Commission draft document to be the final product.

Title

The proposed new body has a tentative title of the Australian Beach Volleyball Commission (ABVC).

Purpose

The ABVC's primary purpose will be to represent Australian beach volleyball's constituent interests. This will include but not be limited to players, coaches, event organisers, indoor sports centres, umpires, administrators and private enterprise within beach volleyball.

Objectives

1. To unify the sport under one beach volleyball specific entity that communicates directly with the AVF with the objective of becoming an integral part of the AVF's structure in the short term.
2. In the short to medium term to maintain beach volleyball's status as a tier 2 sport within the eyes of the Commonwealth Government.
3. In the longer term to build beach volleyball into a tier 1 sport with participation rates, grass roots development and elite performance commensurate with such a title.
4. To ensure all interests within the beach volleyball community are equally considered and represented fairly in the creation and administration of AVF policy.
5. To provide knowledge and support for both State and National Federations.

6. To ensure the appropriate reinvestment of monies generated by beach volleyball back into beach volleyball.
7. To assist in directing the development and delivery of the sport including elite performance support, building National grass roots development pathways, coaching programs, umpiring courses and event management education and support.
8. To ensure the success of a beach volleyball National Tour recognised by the Asian Volleyball Confederation and FIVB.
9. To assist the AVF in the securing of a relevant national insurance product available to beach volleyball players.
10. To assist in the development and maintenance of a web site and magazine serving as a resource for all things beach volleyball in Australia.

Principles

The ABVC will incorporate the principles of transparency, honesty, integrity, equity and fairness into the landscape of beach volleyball in Australia. The ABVC will act on behalf of the beach volleyball community in ensuring the interests of beach volleyball are best being served.

Method

The ABVC will ensure that the sport of beach volleyball is managed in accordance to the principles contained in the International Olympic Charter.

Structure

The ABVC will be governed by a board of members. The board will be made up of at least one representative from private enterprise, event management, the players, relevant state representatives and the AVF. A Chairman will be elected each year by the Commission at the first meeting convened after the annual National Championships.

Process

A Facebook page will be established to inform the beach volleyball community of the formation of the ABVC. The initial board will be made up of founding representatives Peter Jones and Baz Wedmaier. They will be ideally joined by John Fogarty of the AVF to form the founding board. The FB page will introduce a list of potential board members who can be voted on in the formation of a founding meeting. The FB page will include a voting system for the beach volleyball community to chose whom they would like to see represent them at an initial founding meeting of the Commission. The invitations to a founding meeting will be sent out. The founding meeting will be scheduled and

take place as soon as is feasible. All activities will be recorded on this FB page until the formation of an official ABVC web site. The time frame set in order to hold the first 'founding' meeting of the ABVC board will be 3 months from the first day the FB page is established.

The temporary Chair for the founding meeting will be first offered to those with the most votes as determined by the FB poll.

The board will be made up of those voted in by FB poll that go on to accept an invitation to the founding meeting. The first order of business for the preliminary board will be to draft and enact the ABVC's initial constitution, structure and policies. The founding board will then go on to elect a chairman, vice-chairman and any board member positions deemed to be required for a two year term.

Once established the board of the Commission will ideally be made up of representatives from the following interest groups within beach volleyball:

- The AVF
- Male and female players
- Private industry
- Event management
- Experienced state beach representatives

The Commission will then determine areas of responsibility that it will assume. These may include:

- Training and education for beach volleyball event managers including technical advice and support
- Training & appointing a technical supervisor for all National Tour events
- Working with the Referees Commission to appoint a Referee Delegate to all National Tour events
- Developing a National seeding and ranking policy
- Producing a State Handbook
- Assist in the appointment, assessment and maintenance of outside promoters including requirements at State, National, Asian & World Tour levels
- Assist in developing any additional beach volleyball specific documentation that is required for the maintenance and development of the sport

- Develop a pathway for individuals who may want to go on to International events as players, coaches, referees and support staff