

What's New?!

OVA Beach Tour 2021



Return To Play

- The 2021 Beach Tour season will be following the OVA [Return To Play](#) protocols and Public Health guidelines to operate safely.
- Athletes and parents/guardians must maintain physical distancing at all times when off the court.
- All participants must complete the online daily health screening questionnaire and contact tracing information on the day of the event prior to arriving at the venue.
- Athletes can bring one (1) parent/guardian to the event. Spectators are not allowed.
- Events will only take place in Green, Yellow and Orange zones.
- Athletes can only participate if they do not live in a Red/Grey/White zone.

Event Format

- The 2021 Beach events are based on the 2020 Beach Friendlies model, with the addition of small playoff brackets dependent on the number of teams in a division.
- All pool play matches will be 2 sets to 21 points or 30/35-minute rounds depending on the number of teams in a pool.
- Playoff matches will be 2 out of 3 sets (21, 21, 15) or 45-minute rounds.
- Playoff brackets are broken down to tiers, with a maximum of 4 teams per tier.
- Upon completion of playoffs, each team will have a specific rank.
- To help alleviate the need for travel outside an athlete's region, for the 2021 season there will be no difference in points based on venue, and all events will award Beach Tour points.

Check-In

- Check in will open 45 minutes before the start of the wave and will close 15 minutes before the start of the first match.
- Athletes and parent/guardian must complete the daily health screening (DHS) questionnaire online before arriving at the event. The link to the DHS can be found on the event schedule posted [here](#).
- Athletes are required to check in prior to beginning their on-court warm up, daily health screening questionnaire will be verified of the participant and their parent/guardian onsite.

Player Referees

- All matches for pool play and playoffs will be self-refereed and players are responsible for making their own calls.
- Certified referees will be available to answer questions; however, they are not required to referee all matches.

Time Outs

- Technical Time Out - For the 2021 season, there will be no technical timeouts, however, each team is allowed one timeout of 30 seconds, per set (including the third sets to 15).
- Medical Time Out - In order to avoid lengthy delays and for matches to not exceed the allocated time on the schedule, the medical timeout for the 2021 OVA Beach Tour season must not last more than 3 minutes total, with the time starting from the moment the athletic therapist and/or OVA referee arrives on the court.

Fees/Registration/Membership

- Participation in Beach Tour Events will only require the purchase of a Beach Recreational Player membership (\$12.91) in order to participate at a Beach Tour event.
- Refunds and cancellations will now incur a \$20 administration fee. Please see section 2.4 of the Beach Tour Handbook for full details.

Age Categories

- Athletes are to participate in the age category associated to their Chronological Age Class. The categories for 2021 are:

Age Category	Chronological Age Class
12 & Under	Born 2009 or later
13 & Under	Born 2008 or later
14 & Under	Born 2007 or later
15 & Under	Born 2006 or later
16 & Under	Born 2005 or later
18 & Under	Born 2003 or later
Youth Open	Born 2001 or later
Adult	No age restriction

- Those athletes who are new to the sport of beach volleyball and whose birthdate fall in the extended age category may be eligible to play down an age category.
- **Those who are eligible to play down an age class must apply for exemption from the OVA** by emailing Kelvin Cheng (kcheng@ontariovolleyball.org). The email must have a description of their objective and rationale for playing down.
- Extended age categories are as follows:

Age Category	Extended Age Class
12 & Under	Born between September 1 st 2008 and December 31 st 2008
13 & Under	Born between September 1 st 2007 and December 31 st 2007
14 & Under	Born between September 1 st 2006 and December 31 st 2006
15 & Under	Born between September 1 st 2005 and December 31 st 2005
16 & Under	Born between September 1 st 2004 and December 31 st 2004
18 & Under	Born between September 1 st 2002 and December 31 st 2002
Youth Open	Born between September 1 st 2000 and December 31 st 2000

- Please see section 2.1 of the OVA Beach Tour Handbook

Policies

- **Person in Authority (PIA) Code of Conduct** - The OVA values the safety, rights and wellbeing of our athletes and their families. It is the responsibility of every OVA club, coach, volunteer and staff member to participate in the effort to create a safe environment for all OVA participants.
- This Person in Authority code of conduct is intended to protect OVA participants from abuse. It provides guidelines for conduct that are consistent with the development of healthy relationships between adult persons in authority and youth sport participants. The Code provides behavior guideposts that identify inappropriate or concerning behavior at an early stage to help better protect athletes and coaches.
- See Appendix IV in the OVA Beach Tour Handbook for the OVA Safe sport Abuse Prevention Person In Authority Code of Conduct.
- **Concussion Code of Conduct** - Under Rowan's Law (Concussion Safety), 2018, every sport organization will ask you to confirm that you reviewed one of the Concussion Awareness Resources in this website (Ontario.ca/concussions) before you can register/participate in a sport.
- You must review one of the resources once a year, and then confirm that you have completed the review every time you register with a sport organization.
- Sport organizations must also establish a Concussion Code of Conduct and individuals must confirm that they have reviewed the sport organization's applicable Concussion Code of Conduct prior to registration/participation in a sport.
- Please see Appendix V in the OVA Beach Tour Handbook for the full details.

Ontario Championships & Beach Nationals

- To be eligible to compete in a **single age division** in Ontario Beach Championships, each partner must participate in a minimum of three Beach Tour (3) events, two of which must be in the age group they wish to participate in at Ontario Championships.
- 2021 Beach Ontario Championships will be one-day events, instead of typical two-day events as in previous years.
- **Please note that due to COVID-19, the following dates and age groups are tentative. It is at OVA's and Volleyball Canada's discretion as to when/where the events will take place.**
- **Ontario Championships dates:**
 - July 31/August 1: 13U/15U/18U/Adult
 - August 7/8: 12UG/14U/16U/YO
- Beach Nationals will be held at Ashbridges Bay from Friday August 20th to Sunday August 22nd. For age groups and registration information, please visit Volleyball Canada's website www.volleyball.ca
- **More information on the Ontario Championships will be available at a later date.**