

CEV Queen & King of the court European Finals Luxembourg 2023

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QUEEN & KING
OF THE COURT
EUROPEAN FINALS LUXEMBOURG 2023

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1. Introduction

1.1. Competition Concept

Following the successful first edition of the CEV Queen & King of the Court European Finals in 2022, the CEV and Sportworx are continuing their collaboration and organise the 2nd edition of this new initiative in line with the CEV vision to embrace new and contemporary formats in the CEV Beach Volleyball events portfolio and provide additional playing opportunities to athletes and National Federations.

Queen & King of the Court is a beach volleyball variant where the beach volleyball court is divided into a winner's side and a challenger side. Points can only be scored on the winner's side. The game has substantial differences with the regular 2 vs 2 Beach Volleyball, with multiple teams being active simultaneously and playing under time rules in an elimination race.

2. 2023 Competition Parameters

2.1. Date and Venue

The 2023 edition of the CEV Queen & King of the Court European Finals will be hosted in Luxembourg from 27th of June to the 1st of July.

2.2. Number of participating teams

The CEV Queen & King of the Court European Finals will be played with the participation of 27 teams in total, 17 directly in the Main Draw and 10 in the preceding Qualification Tournament to determine the allocation of the remaining 3 spots in the Main Draw.

In each gender, the direct spots in the **Main Draw** go to:

- Minimum 14 teams directly qualified comprising of:
 - ✓ Minimum 1 host country team
 - ✓ Minimum 13 foreign teams respecting the country quota parameters
- Maximum 3 Wild Card teams. National Federations may present their request for Wild Cards to the CEV at the latest by the registration deadline.

In case less than three Wild Cards are awarded, the remaining Main Draw spot(s) will be allocated to the next eligible team through the CEV Entry Ranking.

In each gender, the **Qualification Tournament** involves:

- Minimum 7 teams as follows:
 - ✓ 1 host country team
 - ✓ Minimum 6 foreign teams respecting the country quota parameters
- Maximum 3 Wild Card teams. The National Federations may present their request for Wild Cards to the CEV Office at the latest by the registration deadline.

In case less than three Wild Cards are awarded, the remaining spot(s) will be allocated to the next eligible team through the CEV Entry Ranking.

The allocation of Wild Cards will be circulated through the event's Confirmed Lists.

2.3. Right of Participation

An athlete wishing to take part in a CEV competition must possess the nationality of the country he/she intends to represent and must fully comply with the requirements laid down in the FIVB Sports Regulations. In addition, each athlete needs to have the following documentation completed/updated on their VIS profile:

- Submit the Players Commitment & Health Certificate form as per the CEV instructions
- Have completed both the FIVB "Play Clean" anti-doping course as well as the FIVB e-learning course on the Prevention of Competition Manipulation that can be found [here](#)

Only athletes not suspended by CEV and/or FIVB are allowed to participate in the competition.

2.4. Registration & Allocation of teams in Main Draw & Qualification

Registration for the event is through the standard registration procedure for all CEV sanctioned Beach Volleyball events using the respective CEV documents and forms, as detailed in the CEV Competitions Regulations.

The registration deadline for the CEV Queen & King of the court European Finals is set for Monday, 29th of May.

Teams will be allocated to the Main Draw, Qualification and Reserve List of the competition according to the CEV Entry Ranking on the day of the registration deadline taking into consideration the below Country Quota rule:

- Maximum 4 host country teams per gender (3 in Main Draw & 1 in qualification)
- Maximum 3 teams from the same foreign country per gender (2 in Main Draw & 1 in qualification)

When two or more Teams have the same amount of points in the CEV Entry Ranking, the order of Teams is established as per the conditions set in the CEV Beach Volleyball Competitions Regulations.

Country Quota limitations may be voided in case the roster of teams registered for the event or present during the Preliminary Inquiries/Technical Meetings is not complete.

Wild Cards are not considered in the above quota limitations.

2.5. Seeding

Teams will be seeded to the Main Draw and Qualification Tournament according to the Sum of the CEV Entry Ranking points of the individual athlete on Monday, 29th of May and in line with the CEV Beach Volleyball Competitions Regulations and the Event Practical Info.

Teams coming from Qualification will take the last three spots in the Main Draw according to their sum of the CEV Entry Ranking points as Monday, 29th of May.

The top seeded teams of the hosting National Federation of Luxembourg will be seeded as Number 4 in both genders.

2.6. Substitution of an Athlete / Withdrawal of a team

Before the registration deadline a National Federation may substitute an athlete from a team or withdraw a team from the competition through the VIS, without any consequences.

After the registration deadline, a National Federation may substitute only one athlete per team from the competition in case of injury/medical reason or "force majeure" through the CEV BV-03 form; respective proof or documentation must be presented to the CEV.

In case of a replacement of an athlete after the registration deadline, the new team's CEV Entry Ranking points as of Monday, 29th of May are taken into consideration for the new team's entry. The new team is then placed into the Main Draw, Qualification or Reserve List accordingly:

- In case the team remains in the Main Draw or the Qualification Tournament, the position in the pool will be maintained.
- In case the team moves down to the Qualification / Reserve List, the next team on the Qualification Tournament / Reserve list (considering country quota limitations) becomes eligible to enter the Main Draw / Qualification in the vacant position in the pool.

After the registration deadline, a National Federation may withdraw a team from the competition in case of injury/medical reason or "force majeure" through the CEV BV-03 form; respective proof or documentation must be presented to the CEV.

In such case, the next team on the Qualification Tournament/Reserve List (considering country quota limitations) becomes eligible to enter in the Main Draw/Qualification Tournament in the vacant position.

2.7. Competition format / Rules of the Game

The event will be played using the following competition format and rules:

Teams

- Each team consists of two players.
- Each match will be played by multiple teams with a minimum of three (3) teams.
- Starting from the Quarter Finals, all points scored in all rounds by teams in the previous phase (excluding lucky loser rounds) are used to create the Points Ranking. This ranking is then used to determine the pool composition of the respective phase. In case of an identical sum of all points, the higher seeded team in the tournament shall be seeded higher in the Points Ranking.
- Before the start of the game, there will be a draw to decide which team has the benefit of starting on the winner's side (Queen's/King's side). This draw will take place right before the start of the match. Every team picks a playing card. The team that picks the 'Queen' or 'King' will start on the Queen's/King's side and the service order is established by the order of the playing cards (from high to low) picked by each team.
- For play-off rounds, there will be no draw. Players will be starting the game according to their position in the Points Ranking.
- When a player gets injured during the match, they can be treated next to the court, but the game will continue.

Game

- The game will be played on a regulation size beach volleyball court. On each side of the court there are a set of a gold and black boundary lines. The gold lines refer to the King's side of the court and the black lines refer to the challenger's side of the court.

- The Queen's/King's side is the only side of the court where a team can score points.
- The challenger's side is the side where teams can challenge the 'Queens' or 'Kings'. When teams win the point on this side, they earn a spot on the Queen's/King's side where they replace the team that was on that side during the rally and the team that was replaced goes back to serve, while respecting the service order.
- Each rally starts with a serve from a team on the challenger's side.
- The team that is serving can decide which player of the team is serving. There is no specific order and limitation on how many times one player can serve.
- If the team on the Queen's/King's side wins the rally, they earn one (1) point and they will remain on the Queen's/King's side.
- If the team on the challenger's side wins the rally, they earn the spot on the Queen's/King's side.
- If the team on the Queen's/King's side loses the rally, they will leave the Queens'/King's side and go back to the challenger's side. At the challenger's side they wait their turn to play.
- There will be a maximum of eight (8) seconds in between the end of a rally and the beginning of a new rally.
- When a rally starts, the game will be played according to the regular beach volleyball rules.
- Teams cannot take a time-out during a round.

Points

- If a team on the challenger's side makes a serving mistake, there will be no points awarded to the team on the Queens's/King's side. Exception is every three (3) service mistakes in a row are one (1) point. When three (3) service errors are reached or a new team enters the Queens's/King's side, the service mistakes will go to zero (0) and the count starts again.
- In the last (1) minute of a round, every service mistake is one (1) point awarded to the team on the Queens's/King's side.
- After each of the first two rounds, the team with the least number of points scored in that round will be eliminated.
- When there are two teams with the same number of points at the end of the round, the team with the longest stay at the Queens's/King's is considered higher ranked. If the longest stay is equal as well, the team that had the longest stay first is considered higher ranked. If there are two teams with 0 points, the one who entered the Queen's/King's side first is considered higher ranked. In case of neither team entering the Queen's/King's side for the duration of the round, the team which started with a higher ranking based on the draw or on the results in previous round, will be considered ranked higher.
- The following round in one (1) match will start in order of the result of the previous round. The team with the most points will start the next round on the Queens's/King's side, the team with the second number of points will be the first challenging team, the team with the third number of points will be the second team to serve from the challenger's side, and so on.

Golden Ball reward

- When in a phase the top 3 of each group advance to the next round the teams can earn a golden ball in their match. They can use this golden ball in the next phase only. For example: During the group stage, teams can earn a 'golden ball' to use in the semi-final.

- This 'golden ball' will be earned by the winner of round number three (3). This means when there are three (3) teams remaining, they are battling for a prize to use further in the tournament.
- The 'golden ball' can be used as a wash. This means when a team is on the Queens's/King's side or on Challenger side and loses the rally, they can use the 'golden ball' to re-play the rally. This also means the rally will be played against the same team on the other side. The 'golden ball' can only be used once.
- The 'golden ball' can be only earned in Group Stage or the Quarter Finals.

Time per game

- One match with 5 teams has 3 rounds
- Each round will be played in fifteen (15) minutes.
- After 10 minutes in each round there will be a time-out of 1 minute. The time out starts, and the clock pauses when the rally that started after 10 minutes has ended.
- The final round will be played until fifteen (15) points or in fifteen (15) minutes. The exception is Semi-Final Phase and Play-Offs where teams always play full 15 minutes.
- There will be a buzzer(sound) at the end of each round. When the buzzer goes on, it means the round is over.
- In case the buzzer goes on after the referee has blown the whistle to start the rally, the rally will continue until it ends.

2.8. Prize money

Prize Money shall be allocated to all participating teams as per the following breakdown.

Rank	Prize money per team
1	13 000,00 €
2	10 000,00 €
3	7 500,00 €
4	6 000,00 €
5	4 500,00 €
6	3 500,00 €
7	3 250,00 €
8	3 000,00 €
9	2 700,00 € (x2)
11	2 250,00 €
12	2 000,00 €
13	1 600,00 € (x3)
16	1 200,00 €
17	1 150,00 €
18	1 100,00 €
19	1 050,00 €
20	1 000,00 €
Longest stay	1 500,00 €
Qualification (phase one & phase two)	400,00 €

2.9. Athletes' Uniforms & Accessories

The organiser will be providing uniforms (top only) to all participating teams.

Athletes are responsible to bring their own shorts/bikini bottoms as per the provisions of the CEV Beach Volleyball Competitions Regulations and the FIVB Official Beach Volleyball Rules. Athletes may use gear and accessories as defined in the CEV Beach Volleyball Guidelines.

2.10. Accommodation & Travel Schedule

All participating teams will have to bear their own travel and accommodation expenses and will have the possibility to book a room in the athletes' hotel at their own expense and at a special rate. Details will be communicated by the CEV through the event's Practical Info document.

Up to 2 additional Coaches/Team Managers and other Team members' can be accredited.

All accredited teams and delegation members have to arrange their own transportation from the hotel to the venue and vice versa.

3. Financial Regulations

3.1. Entry Fee

For the participation of each team the respective National Federation shall pay an entry fee of 100,- EUR per team to the CEV upon the receipt of the relevant invoice at the end of the 2023 season.

3.2. License Fee

For each athlete participating in any CEV competition in 2023, the respective National Federation shall pay upon receipt of the respective CEV invoice, a one-off license fee amounting to 20, - EUR per player.

4. Further Information

All necessary information about the competition will be circulated to the National Federations using the Official Communications and the event's Practical Info document.

Additional information concerning the competition and the registered teams will be posted in the CEV Queen & King of the Court section of the CEV website.

5. Contact Addresses

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