

BEYOND THE NET



A NEW ERA DAWNS! POWER SHIFTS AS FOUR TEAMS SEIZE GLORY ACROSS ASIA'S PREMIER VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENTS

The Asian volleyball landscape witnessed thrilling conclusions to four major tournaments in 2025, with Qatar's Al-Rayyan Sports Club and Kazakhstan's Zhetysu VC emerging as the new club powerhouses, while the national teams of Bahrain and Vietnam claimed the top honors in their respective Nations Cup competitions.

In a display of dominance at the AVC Men's Volleyball Champions League, Al-Rayyan Sports Club etched their name in history by securing their maiden title. The Qatari club showcased exceptional skill and teamwork throughout the tournament, culminating in a hard-fought victory in the final.

Similarly, the AVC Women's Volleyball Champions League saw a new champion in Zhetysu VC. The Kazakhstani side capped an impressive run with a memorable win in the final, marking their first-ever championship in the prestigious club competition.



The inaugural AVC Men's Nations Cup delivered a historic outcome as Bahrain's national team clinched a momentous gold medal. Their journey to the top was marked by resilience and determination, culminating in a victory that signals a new era for men's volleyball in the country.

Meanwhile, Vietnam's national team continued their reign in the AVC Women's Nations Cup, securing a remarkable third consecutive title. The Vietnamese women demonstrated their consistent excellence and strategic prowess, solidifying their status as a dominant force in Asian women's volleyball.

THREE MONTHS OF INTENSE ASIAN BEACH VOLLEYBALL

QATAR & AUSTRALIA SHOW STRENGTH, AS RISING STARS FROM KAZAKHSTAN & CHINA EMERGE

Beach volleyball teams from across Asia and Oceania competed fiercely over three months in five AVC Beach Tour events and the Asian U21 Championships. Teams from Qatar and Australia delivered consistently outstanding performances, while China, Japan, and New Zealand shared the women's titles. The youth stage saw a historic championship for Kazakhstan and a powerful performance from China.



April: Australia, Qatar, Japan, and New Zealand Share Titles

- AVC Beach Tour Nuvali Open (PHI, Apr 2-5): The month kicked off with a powerful display from Australia, securing a double championship. In the men's category, Paul Burnett and Luke Ryan claimed the title, while the women's gold went to Stefanie Fejes and Jasmine Fleming.
- AVC Beach Tour Samila Open (THA, Apr 13-16): On Samila Beach, the veteran Qatari pair Cherif Younousse and Ahmed Tijan (QAT) secured their first men's title of the year. In the women's division, the championship was won by sisters Ren Matsumoto and Non Matsumoto (JPN).
- AVC Beach Tour Phu Yen Open (VIE, Apr 25-28): In the women-only event in Vietnam, it was Shaunna Polley and Olivia Macdonald (NZL) who delivered a stellar performance to win the championship, with Thailand Taravadee Naraphornrapat and Worapeerachayakorn Kongphopsrutawadee finishing second.



May: Qatar's Reign Continues, China Wins on Home Sand

- AVC Beach Tour Doha Open (QAT, Apr 30 - May 3): At the men-only event in Doha, Cherif Younousse and Ahmed Tijan (QAT) repeated their victory against Australian rivals Burnett/Ryan, securing their second consecutive title on home soil.
- AVC Beach Tour Pingtan Open (CHN, May 8-11): The Qatari duo Cherif/Ahmed continued their hot streak, winning their third consecutive title and cementing their status as the top men's pair in Asia. In the women's category, the host nation did not disappoint, as Xue Chen and Zeng Jinjin (CHN) claimed a grand victory in front of their home fans.

June: Rising Stars Emerge in Thailand

- Asian U21 Beach Volleyball Championships (THA, Jun 18-22): The youth competition made new history as Klim Ryukhov and Vladislav Mastikhin (KAZ) won the men's championship, marking their country's first-ever gold medal in this event. The women's title went to Jiang Kaiyue and Zhou Mingli (CHN), who performed up to their top expectations.

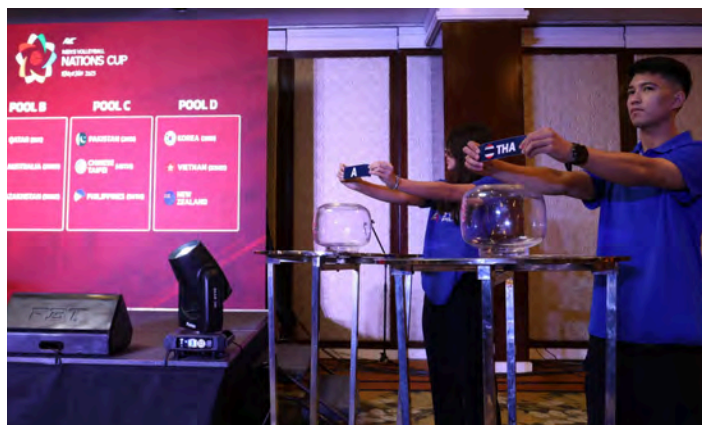
AVC SOLIDIFIES 2025 TOURNAMENT PLANS AT MANILA SUMMIT



The Asian Volleyball Confederation (AVC) Board of Administration convened in Manila, Philippines, on May 25-26, 2025, with the primary goal of organizing the competition schedule for the remainder of the year.

During the session, the board conducted a drawing of lots ceremony to officially determine the tournament pools for major events like the AVC Men's and Women's Nations Cups. This provided national teams with the clarity needed to begin their preparations.

The summit also featured a strategic dialogue with FIVB President Mr. Fabio Azevedo, who discussed the global vision for volleyball and emphasized the need to enhance the sport's worldwide popularity and accessibility. Finally, the board reviewed progress reports from various host countries, confirming they were prepared to conduct their events according to the highest international standards.



ZONAL ACTIVITIES APR - JUN 2025

OCEANIA ZONE

- U18 Oceania Men's Championship: The Australian duo of Ethan Grocott and Thomas Turner dominated the competition, winning the gold medal without dropping a single set. They defeated a team from Papua New Guinea in the final.
- Guam's Niesha Chen and Alessandra Leon Guerrero were crowned champions of the U18 Oceania Women's Beach Volleyball Championship, following their victory over their Australian rivals, Riley Akanoa and Ava Gaborit, in the final match held this past April in Honiara, Solomon Islands.
- Oceania Volleyball has launched a new brand identity to signal a "bold new era" for the sport in the region. The rebranding, which includes a new logo featuring a palm tree and ocean waves, aims to reflect the organization's professional transformation and better represent the unity, resilience, and cultural pride of its Pacific island nations. This strategic change is designed to strengthen Oceania's presence within the global volleyball community.



ZONAL ACTIVITIES APR - JUN 2025

EASTERN ZONE

- Asian U21 Beach Volleyball Championships: China showcased its deep talent pool at the championships in Roi Et, Thailand, in June. Jiang Kaiyue and Zhou Mingli won the gold medal in the women's event, while Liu Yuan and Mao Yuan claimed the silver medal in the men's final. Japan's women's team also reached the semifinals.
- Club and National Team Success: Teams from China and Japan were active and successful in the inaugural AVC Men's and Women's Champions Leagues and various AVC Beach Tour events held across Asia.



SOUTHEASTERN ZONE

- The Southeastern Zone was a hub of activity, hosting multiple major tournaments and a key administrative meeting.
 - Hosting Major Events: Thailand hosted the AVC Beach Tour Samila Open in April and both the SAVA U21 Beach Volleyball Championships and the 6th Asian U21 Beach Volleyball Championships in Roi Et in June. Thai teams performed exceptionally, winning both the men's and women's titles at the SAVA U21 event.
 - The Philippines hosted the AVC Beach Tour Nuvali Open in April.
 - Vietnam hosted the women-only AVC Beach Tour Phu Yen Open in April.
- SAVA Board Meeting: On June 9, the Southeast Asia Volleyball Association (SAVA) held its Board of Administration Meeting in Bangkok. With full attendance from all 11 member federations, the meeting focused on regional collaboration, particularly the planning for the 5th SEA V.League, and strengthening the development of volleyball across Southeast Asia.
- The FIVB Level-2 Coaches Course at the FIVB Development Center in Bangkok, Thailand, has successfully concluded. Thirty-four coaches from 15 countries completed the intensive five-day program, receiving certificates after undergoing advanced theoretical and practical training to enhance their coaching skills.



ZONAL ACTIVITIES APR - JUN 2025

CENTRAL ZONE

- CAVA Annual General Meeting: The Central Asian Volleyball Association (CAVA) held its Annual General Meeting in Kathmandu, Nepal, on April 25. Key outcomes included:
 - The official launch of the CAVA Awards to recognize excellence among its national federations.
 - Confirmation of leadership appointments to the CAVA Board of Administration.
 - Presentation and approval of the CAVA Events Calendar for 2025 and 2026, aligning with the broader AVC schedule.
- The CAVA Men's Volleyball Nations League 2025 has commenced in Fergana, Uzbekistan, with seven teams competing. On the opening day, host Uzbekistan was defeated by Turkmenistan in a 1-3 set match.
- Iran has asserted its dominance in Central Asian youth volleyball, capturing the championship titles in both the CAVA Boys' U16 and Men's U19 tournaments held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. In the U16 finals, Iran secured the gold medal, with Kazakhstan taking silver and host nation Uzbekistan claiming bronze. The U19 category saw Iran once again clinch the top spot. Host Uzbekistan earned the silver medal in this tournament, while India finished with the bronze. The double victory highlights the strength of Iran's youth development program in the region.



WESTERN ZONE

- Bahrain's Shaikh Ali bin Mohammed Al Khalifa has been re-elected to lead the Arab Volleyball Federation for the 2024-2028 term. Following his re-election at the General Assembly in Bahrain, he expressed his gratitude to the member federations for their renewed trust and acknowledged the significant support from Bahrain's leadership.
- The Bahrain Volleyball Association successfully concluded an FIVB Coaches Course Level 1 from April 26 to 30, 2025. Held at the Bahrain International Volleyball Development Center, the course was attended by 28 participants from eight countries. The event, combining theoretical and practical sessions, aimed to enhance the skills of national coaches and keep them updated with the latest global developments in volleyball. The course ended with a ceremony where all participants were awarded certificates.
- Teams supported by the FIVB Volleyball Empowerment program achieved a clean sweep of the men's podium at the WAVA West Asian Beach Volleyball Tour in Amman, Jordan. Oman's Mazin Alhashmi & Hood Al Jalaboubi won gold, while two teams from Qatar secured the silver and bronze medals. This success highlights the positive impact of the FIVB's coach support and equipment funding for the region.




EVENTS CALENDAR

VOLLEYBALL

Tournament	Host	Duration
Asian Men's U16 Volleyball Championship Thailand 2025	 Thailand	12 - 19 July 2025
Asian Women's U16 Volleyball Championship Jordan 2025	 Jordan	1 - 8 November 2025

BEACH VOLLEYBALL

Tournament	Host	Duration
AVC Beach Tour Pingtung	 Chinese Taipei	17 - 20 July 2025



THE WORLD UNITES FOR A HISTORIC CELEBRATION: FIRST-EVER WORLD VOLLEYBALL DAY ON JULY 7

Why July 7?

The date is steeped in history, chosen specifically to honor the anniversary of the first public demonstration of volleyball by the sport's inventor, Mr. William G. Morgan, back in 1895. Establishing World Volleyball Day on this date pays homage to the game's rich heritage while launching a vibrant new tradition.



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How to Be Part of History

- **PLAY!** - Get Out and Play Volleyball! No matter where you are, gather your friends, family, or teammates and hit the court! Whether it's on a sandy beach, in a gym, or at a local park, all that's needed is a ball and a love for the game.
- **SHARE!** - Share Your Story! Bring the celebration to life online! Create a short video sharing your personal volleyball story. Tell the world how you fell in love with the sport, introduce your team, or recount your craziest on-court moment. Post it on social media with the official hashtag: **#WorldVolleyballDay** **#VolleyballYourWay** and **#Volleyball**

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