

CEV Disciplinary Regulations

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1. PREAMBLE

- §1 The present regulations are established in accordance with articles 2.10.4.2 of the FIVB Constitution, 4.3.2 of the FIVB General Regulations, 14.7 and 26.7 of the FIVB Disciplinary Regulations.

2. SCOPE OF APPLICATION

2.1 Persons

- §1 These regulations apply to the following persons:
- a. The CEV,
 - b. The Zonal Associations,
 - c. The National Federations and their leagues with own legal entity,
 - d. The Clubs,
 - e. The Officials
 - f. The Players,
 - g. The FIVB licenced agents.

2.2 Events

- §1 These regulations apply to the following events:
- a. The CEV competitions,
 - b. The activities related to the CEV competitions and statutory aims of the CEV.

2.3 Offences

- §1 These regulations apply to any offences for which the FIVB is not exclusively competent.

2.4 Period of action

- §1 These regulations apply to any offence which occurred or ended no later than 10 years from the start of the proceedings.
- §2 Such period is interrupted by the start of the proceedings.

2.5 Law

- §1 A decision is taken according to the CEV Regulatory Framework, FIVB Regulatory Framework and any other law that is considered applicable.
- §2 Where appropriate, the principles of the CEV Good Governance Code shall be taken into consideration in the decision finding process.

3. BODY

- §1 The Legal Chamber is the body of the CEV with exclusive competence to apply these regulations; unless otherwise specified in these regulations. The Legal Chamber President appoints a panel for each case. The panel is composed of 1 or 3 Legal Chamber members, as decided by the President of the Legal Chamber. One of them is appointed as Chairperson by the President. The Chairperson conducts the proceedings. A member is removed from the panel according to article 5 §5 and 5 §6 of the Legal Chamber Regulations. A new member is appointed as mentioned above.
- §2 The First referee is the body with exclusive competence for offences mentioned in the Official Volleyball Rules or Official Beach Volleyball Rules; in connection with the match conducted by this referee. If there is a need to impose further sanctions after the match, due to the severity of the offence and the possible damage to the image of the sport, the respective body may do so.
- §3 The General Assembly is the CEV body with exclusive competence for the exclusion of a National Federation.

- §4 The CEV Supervisor or Jury is the body with exclusive competence to apply these regulations during a match, round or phase of a CEV competition.

4. OFFENCES

- §1 An offence is a breach of the CEV Regulatory Framework or the FIVB Regulatory Framework.

5. SANCTIONS

5.1 List

- §1 For an offence, the following sanctions apply:
- A simple warning,
 - A severe warning (reprimand),
 - A financial sanction (monetary fine),
 - A repeal of a right (suspension), including but not limited to participation in competitions, carrying out functions within CEV (or National Federations, clubs etc.), possessing a license,
 - Withdrawal of a title, award or license.
 - A disqualification from current or future competitions,
 - A forfeit of one or more matches,
 - A deduction of one or more points (for the current and/or a future competition),
 - A ban on international transfers or on the registration of new players,
 - A ban on exercising any volleyball-related activity,
 - Volleyball community service,
 - A combination of the above mentioned sanctions.
- §2 The competent body determines the type and extent of the sanctions to be imposed in accordance with the objective and subjective elements of the offence, considering both aggravating and mitigation circumstances.

5.2 Intention and negligence

- §1 An offence may be sanctioned even if it was not committed intentionally or negligently.

5.3 Attempt and complicity

- §1 Attempting to commit an offence is sanctioned as if the offence had been committed.
- §2 Participating in or instigating an offence is also sanctioned.

5.4 Scope

- §1 A sanction may be limited to a geographical area or to one or more matches, rounds, phases of a CEV competition or categories of the latters.
- §2 A party in the proceedings may request the FIVB to extend the sanction so it has a worldwide effect, according to the FIVB Disciplinary Regulations.
- §3 All sanctions imposed by the CEV on National Leagues with own legal entity, clubs, teams and officials shall also apply at a national level, unless otherwise decided by the CEV.
- §4 A sanction can be extended to natural or legal persons which are directly or indirectly linked to the sanctioned party either from a legal or sporting perspective (e.g. different entity under a similar name, same board of directors, officials, technical staff, same sporting license, etc.). The CEV shall ensure that the party against which such sanctions shall be extended has the right to state its position and provide evidence before extending against such party.

5.5 Enforcement

- §1 Unless decided otherwise by the competent body, a financial sanction is paid no later than three months after the decision is issued. The terms of the payment are set by the competent body.

- §2 A disqualification enters into force immediately after notification of the decision.
- §3 Unless decided otherwise by the competent body, the repeal of the right to participate to one or more matches or CEV competitions enters into force the day after receipt of the notification of the decision.
- §4 In order to verify and check if CEV decisions are properly executed, CEV has the right to ask for and have access to all relevant documents and information of National Federations, National Leagues with own legal entity and Clubs concerned, regarding the specific case.

5.6 Suspension of sanctions

- §1 All sanctions may totally or partially be suspended, in view, in particular, of the circumstances of the offence, the characteristics of the offender and his/her general behaviour before or after the offence was committed; with the exception of simple warnings, severe warnings (reprimands), withdrawal of a title or award or Volleyball community service.
- §2 The probation period must be a minimum of 1 year and a maximum of 5 years, starting from the day after receipt of the written notification.
- §3 If a further offence of the same or a similar nature is committed during the probationary period, the competent disciplinary body, as a rule, orders that the original sanction be enforced. This may be added to the sanction imposed for the new offence.

6. SPECIFIC

6.1 Ethics

- §1 A breach of the provisions of the FIVB Code of Ethics is an offence. The offence is sanctioned in accordance with the FIVB Code of Ethics.
- §2 Any statement damaging the good image or reputation of CEV, based on unreasonable or untrue allegations, is an offence. The offence is sanctioned in accordance with these regulations, if the provisions and procedures of the FIVB Code of Ethics not apply.

6.2 Rules of the game

- §1 A breach of the provisions of the Official Volleyball Rules, Official Beach Volleyball Rules or Official Snow Volleyball Rules is an offence. The offence is sanctioned in accordance with the Official Volleyball Rules, the Official Beach Volleyball Rules, the Official Snow Volleyball Rules and these regulations.

6.3 Violent conduct

- §1 Any action, attitude or public statement displaying an improper use of physical or emotional force in order to injure, intimidate or defame the CEV, its guests or any of the persons mentioned in article 2.1 is an offence.
- §2 The offence is sanctioned as follows:
 - a. By a sanction applying for an offence,
 - b. By the forfeit of the match for the team held responsible of the public's conduct, when such conduct irremediably compromises the normal course of a match,
 - c. By, at least, the repeal of the right to participate to one or more matches of a CEV competition for the Official or Player who committed the offence.

6.4 Betting and Manipulation of results

- §1 The conduct described in articles A.2.1.1 and A.2.1.2 of Appendix A – Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions – of the FIVB Disciplinary Regulations is an offence.
- §2 The offence is sanctioned as follows:
 - a. By a sanction applying for an offence,

- b. By the forfeit of all relevant matches, deduction of all ranking points earned through these matches and the repeal of the right to participate to all CEV competitions for up to 2 years for the National Federation or Club declared responsible for this conduct,
- c. By a financial sanction in the minimum amount of EUR 45,000 and the repeal of the right to participate to any activity within the sphere of the CEV for a period between 5 years and a life ban.

6.5 Corruption and related violations

- §1 The conduct described in articles A.2.1.3, A.2.1.4, A.2.1.5 and A.2.1.6 of Appendix A – Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions – of the FIVB Disciplinary Regulations is an offence.
- §2 The offence is sanctioned as follows:
 - a. By a sanction applying for an offence,
 - b. By a discharge of duty or disqualification for the referees and,
 - c. By a financial sanction in the minimum amount of EUR 45,000 and the repeal of the right to participate to any activity within the sphere of the CEV for a period between 5 years and a life ban.

6.6 International Transfer Certificate

- §1 Failure to comply with the procedure to transfer players from one National Federation to another is an offence.
- §2 Enabling a player to play longer than the duration of the transfer period or obstructing in any way the reinstatement of the player in the Federation of Origin is an offence. The offence is sanctioned as follows:
 - a. By a financial sanction up to EUR 20,000 for the receiving National Federation,
 - b. By the repeal of the right to participate to any official activity within the sphere of the CEV for a period up to one year and/or the repeal of the right to transfer players from another National Federation, for the receiving Club,
 - c. By the repeal of the right to participate to matches of a CEV competition until the return of the player to the Federation of Origin, for the Player.
- §3 Registering or participating to a CEV competition with a player, without complying with the FIVB regulations regarding transfers of players between National Federations is an offence. The offence is sanctioned as follows:
 - a. By a financial sanction up to EUR 30,000 per player for the receiving National Federation,
 - b. By a sanction applying for an offence for the receiving Club
 - c. By the the repeal of the right to participate to matches of a CEV competition for a period up to one year, for the Player,
 - d. By a financial sanction up to EUR 5,000 per player for the National League with own legal entity.

6.7 Organisation of competitions

- §1 Failure to obtain the authorisation of the CEV for the organisation of a competition between more than two Clubs with a different National Federation or National Federations, which have not been attributed to them directly by the CEV is an offence.
- §2 The offence is sanctioned as follows:
 - a. By a financial sanction from EUR 10,000 to EUR 50,000 for the organiser of the international competition,
 - b. By the repeal of the right to participate to matches of a CEV competition for a period up to one year, for the participants.

6.8 Non-organisation of competitions

- §1 Failing to organise or withdrawing from the organisation of a CEV competition without the CEV approval is an offence.

- §2 The offence is sanctioned as follows:
- a. By a financial sanction from EUR 40,000 to EUR 100,000 according to the CEV competition,
 - b. By the repeal of the right to participate to matches of a CEV competition for a period up to one year,
 - c. By the repeal of the right to organise matches of a CEV competition for a period up to four years.

6.9 Participation in competitions

- §1 Participation in a CEV competition of a Player not complying with the requirements of such competition is an offence.
- §2 The offence is sanctioned as follows:
- a. By a disqualification from the CEV competition for the Player,
 - b. By the forfeit of all matches where the player participated to,
 - c. By a financial sanction of EUR 30,000 per player for the National Federation or Club
 - d. By the repeal of the right to participate to any official activity within the sphere of the CEV for a period up to two years for the National Federation, Club, Team delegation members and Officials.

6.10 Non participation in competitions

- §1 A withdrawal from or a no-show in a CEV competition after having been registered is an offence.
- §2 Losing a match due to the fact that the team present itself to a match/competition with less than the minimum number of players required by the Regulations, is considered as a no-show, unless that was caused due to force majeure. A no-show does not apply when the team presented itself with the minimum number of players required and lost the match for missing players due to injuries or illness after arrival.
- §3 The offence is sanctioned as follows:
- a. By a financial sanction with the amount defined in the CEV Volleyball Competitions Regulations,
 - b. By the repeal of the right to participate to the next edition of the CEV competition, if the withdrawal or no-show happens before the start of the first match of this competition,
 - c. By the repeal of the right to participate to all CEV competitions for a period up to two years, if the withdrawal or no-show happens after the start of the first match of this competition.
- §4 In case of extraordinary circumstances beyond the influence of the respective teams (e.g. force majeure), the competent body can abstain from issuing one, several or all sanctions mentioned in § 3 above.

6.11 Delay or non-payment

6.11.1 Annual contribution

- §1 Non-payment of the annual contribution to the CEV until the set deadline is an offence.
- §2 The offence is sanctioned as follows:
- a. By the repeal of the right to be granted any sports material or technical support from the CEV,
 - b. By the repeal of the right to participate to any CEV programmes of assistance.
- §3 The sanction lasts until the payment is made.

6.11.2 CEV invoices

- §1 Non-payment of an invoice issued by the CEV before the set deadline is an offence.
- §2 The offence is sanctioned as follows:
- a. By the repeal of the right to participate to any CEV competitions until the invoices has been paid.

6.12 Non compliance with a CEV decision

- §1 Failure to comply with a decision, award, obligation, requirement or time limit set by a CEV body is an offence.
- §2 The offence is sanctioned as follows:
 - a. By a sanction applying for an offence,
 - b. By the appliance of a 5% default payment interest rate and the repeal of the right to participate to any CEV competitions when the decision included a financial sanction issued according to these regulations,
 - c. By the forfeit of the match and by doubling or restarting the sanction initially decided when the decision included a disqualification or the repeal of the right to participate to one or more matches or CEV competitions.

6.13 Repetition of an offence

- §1 The commitment of an offence of the same kind of a first offence, within a period of 5 years, is a repetition of an offence.
- §2 The offence is sanctioned by the increase of the sanction, up to double, related to the offence.

7. COMPOSITE LIABILITY

- §1 A Zonal Association, National Federation or Club is responsible for the conduct of its Officials. A National Federation or Club is also responsible for the conduct of its Player and fans.
- §2 Sanctions to be applied are sanctions for an offence and/or the sanctions related to a specific offence.
- §3 When a financial obligation from a Club to CEV arises, CEV shall send the invoice to the relevant Club and to the National Federation as well. In case of failure to pay by the Club within the first set deadline, the National Federation shall take all necessary measures, including sanctions on national level (according to their own national regulations) to force the club to complete execution of the invoice and to provide CEV with the relevant proof of the measures taken with this regard within a second deadline, set by CEV. If the National Federation is not successful to enforce this decision, the NF can be obliged to execute the payment by itself to CEV within a final deadline set by CEV, regardless of its right to have recourse against the Club to recover the amount paid to CEV.

8. FINANCIAL SANCTION

- §1 When only a financial sanction applies to a specific offence and is mentioned in the CEV Regulatory Framework, the competent body may delegate its powers to the Secretariat to sanction. The Secretariat reports to the competent body.
- §2 The President of the Legal Chamber can delegate all cases of financial sanctions in connection to the CEV Competitions Regulations to the Secretariat. In such cases, these decisions can be submitted by the concerned party to the Legal Chamber which will decide as first instance.
- §3 The competent body may directly apply the sanction.

9. PROCEEDINGS

9.1 Legal Chamber Regulations

- §1 The provisions concerning the proceedings before the Legal Chamber apply to the disciplinary proceedings, taking into consideration the constraints of the competent body.

9.2 Burden of proof

- §1 The competent body has the burden of proof.

9.3 Procedure

9.3.1 Legal Chamber as competent body

- §1 Anybody may report an alleged offence. On receipt of the claim, the panel is appointed.
- §2 The Legal Chamber Secretariat starts investigating immediately and notifies the person about such investigation, the alleged offence and the right to submit an opinion. The investigation ends no later than 5 months after the receipt of the claim. At the end of the investigation, the Legal Chamber Secretariat submits its report to the President of the Legal Chamber who will further decide.
- §3 When the case is submitted to the panel for a decision, the Legal Chamber Secretariat notifies the relevant parties. The notification contains the following items:
 - a. A detailed list of the alleged offences,
 - b. A summary of the facts supporting the allegation,
 - c. A list of the applicable sanctions,
 - d. The time limit to submit their opinion,
 - e. Composition of the panel,
 - f. Any other relevant information.
- §4 The panel may request and/or allow additional opinions and hearing and/or pleading.
- §5 After the submission, hearing and/or pleading, the panel deliberates on its decision. The decision is taken by a simple majority.

9.3.2 First referee as competent body

- §1 The procedure is conducted as mentioned in the Official Volleyball Rules or Official Beach Volleyball Rules.

9.3.3 CEV Supervisor or Jury as competent body

- §1 The procedure is conducted in the way of the procedure before the Legal Chamber, taking into account the time constraints related to the running of the match, round or phase of the CEV competition.

9.3.4 General Assembly as competent body

- §1 The procedure is conducted in the way of the procedure before the Legal Chamber.

9.3.5 Secretariat as competent body

- §1 When the case of financial sanction is delegated to it, the Secretariat notifies the relevant party. The notification contains the following items:
 - a. The alleged offence;
 - b. A summary of the facts supporting the allegation;
 - c. The proposed financial sanction;
 - d. Any other relevant information.
- §2 Within five days after notification the party shall declare if it accepts or not the sanction proposed by the Secretariat.
- §3 If the party accepts the proposal or does not object within five days of reception, the sanction enters into force and must be paid no later than the terms set by the Secretariat.
- §4 If the party does not accept the proposal, it shall submit the case to the Legal Chamber within five days of reception, including its reasons of non-acceptance.
- §5 When the party submits the case to the Legal Chamber, notwithstanding Article 9.3.1, the panel deliberates on its decision. The panel may request and/or allow additional opinions and hearing and/or pleading, if necessary.

9.4 Costs

- §1 When the Legal Chamber is the competent body, the filing fee is in the amount of EUR 600. When a party is sanctioned for an offence, the filing fee shall be borne by such party.
- §2 For proceedings before other competent bodies, there is no filing fee.

9.5 Award

- §1 The competent body issues a written and dated award based only on the evidences produced during the proceedings and sign it.
- §2 The award contains the following items:
 - a. Full identification of the parties, counsels and/or representatives and competent body,
 - b. Summary of the claims, facts, arguments raised by the parties and proceedings,
 - c. Grounds of the decision,
 - d. Distribution of the costs,
 - e. Decision,
 - f. Channel for appeal,
 - g. Date and place of the decision,
 - h. Signature of the competent body.
- §3 The award is issued only after it is checked, on the form, by the Secretariat.
- §4 Obvious mistakes in the award may be corrected by the Secretariat, informing the relevant body about this.

9.6 Appeal

- §1 The parties may lodge an appeal before the FIVB Appeals Panel within 14 days, according to the FIVB Disciplinary Regulations.



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