

# CEV U20 Volleyball European Championship 2027

## Men and Women

Official Communication Nr. 1

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#EuroVolleyU20



1. Introduction.....	3
2. Registration procedure and deadline.....	3
3. Age limit.....	4
4. Competition format and dates.....	4
5. 1 <sup>st</sup> Round Qualifiers – Format and dates.....	5
6. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Round Qualifiers.....	5
7. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Round Qualifiers – Organiser application.....	6
8. CEV U20 Volleyball European League.....	6
9. FIVB U21 World Championships 2028.....	7

# 1. Introduction

The European Volleyball Confederation is pleased to open the registration procedure for the the 2027 edition of the CEV U20 Volleyball European Championship for both genders.

As per the decision of the CEV Board of Administrators taken in March 2026, two updates regarding the format of the CEV U20 Volleyball European Championship final phase and the CEV U20 Volleyball European League have been adopted, as further outlined in this Official Communication.

As with the previous editions, the Final Phase of the stated competitions will be played with 16 teams.

The organisation of the respective Final Phase has been granted as follows:

- Men U20 – in Osijek (CRO) and Podgorica (MNE) on 17/07 – 25/07/2027
- Women U20 – Cagliari (ITA) and Cospicua (MLT) on 08-17/07/2027

This Championship will be managed and processed through the CEV database and therefore we ask all National Federations to apply the necessary accuracy while working with it.

It remains the sole responsibility of the NFs to respect all Communications, CEV Volleyball Competitions Regulations, Guidelines, and institutional decisions to guarantee the delivery of correct, accurate and complete data at any time that these are required.

The regulations in force are the newly updated 'CEV Volleyball Competitions Regulations', these are available as an online PDF document here:

[Volleyball Documents | InsideCEV](#)

Through the same above link you can also access the subsequent 'Official Communications' that are available as an online PDF document, as well as the last version of the 'CEV Organisation Guidelines for National Team Competitions'.

If you have any questions at any time please contact the CEV Volleyball Department.

For this competition, those working on it while matches are being played have the support of the 'Competitions Hotline': +352 621 25 34 44

# 2. Registration procedure and deadline

The registration for this edition will be done through the CEV Database by using the CEV form 01CH (Team Registration).

The registration deadline for closing and sending the above-mentioned form is:

**Monday April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 23:59 CEST**

After closing the form on-line, National Federations must click 'Print Form' and then sign the paper copy and send it by registered letter to the CEV Office.

This must also be sent with a postmark dated on or before the above-mentioned deadline for the registration to be valid.

On this form there are tick boxes to inform CEV if the respective National Federation intends to apply to organise one of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Round qualification tournaments and/or the CEV U20 Volleyball European League organisation. However, the definitive application forms and required procedure for applying to organise a tournament will be sent to all NFs after the registrations are confirmed.

Each National Federation not qualified to the final phase is required to confirm its participation for the CEV U20 Volleyball European League to the CEV in due time, upon request.

For any assistance on filling the registration form, please do not hesitate to contact the CEV Volleyball Department [nationalteams@cev.eu](mailto:nationalteams@cev.eu).

### 3. Age limit

According to the Official Regulations, the CEV U20 Volleyball European Championship 2027 edition will only be open to:

Female and Male players who are:

Born on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2008 or thereafter

### 4. Competition format and dates

The 2027 competition will be structured and include a Qualification phase and a Final Phase. The Qualification phase includes a 1<sup>st</sup> and a 2<sup>nd</sup> Round as follows:

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Round Qualifiers (Zonal)

The 1<sup>st</sup> Round Qualifiers will be organised in each of the six CEV Zonal Associations. Following the registration, CEV will inform each zone about the exact number of their member National Federations who have registered for participation.

Moreover, further to a decision made by the CEV Board of Administration, **a minimum of 40%** of the respective member National Federations have to register for participation in order for the zonal event to count as a 1<sup>st</sup> Round Qualifier for the European Championship. The host(s) of the Final Phase are not allowed to participate in the qualification process.

If one or more Zonal Associations fail to fulfil this requirement, depending on the total number of teams registered for participation in the championship, their teams might:

- have to join those from another zone to compete in the first stage of the qualification process
- join a qualifying round including teams from different zones put together.

Each Zonal Association shall organise their qualification stage according to the calendar set by CEV for this round starting earliest 17<sup>th</sup> August 2026 and completing it by latest before 31<sup>st</sup> October 2026.

In each tournament, the first placed team from the respective zone qualifies directly to the Final Phase.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Round Qualifiers

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Round Qualifiers are organised with a maximum of 20 National Federations who competed but did not qualify from the 1<sup>st</sup> Round Qualifiers to the Final Phase.

At this stage, the number of the granted vacancies per Zone (quotas) in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Round Qualifiers depends on the total number of the registered teams. The team quota per Zone to qualify to 2<sup>nd</sup> Round is based on the percentage of overall European Ranking points per Zone calculated based on participating teams and will be communicated in the next Official Communications.

#### COMPETITION FORMAT:

- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Round Qualifiers will be played using the single round robin tournaments format (i.e. one tournament "one against each other").
- Each 2<sup>nd</sup> Round Qualifier will be played with minimum three and maximum four teams.
- The teams in each 2<sup>nd</sup> Round Qualifier will play one tournament over three competition days:
  - Tournament with 3 teams: each team will play 2 competition days
  - Tournament with 4 teams: each team will play 3 competition days

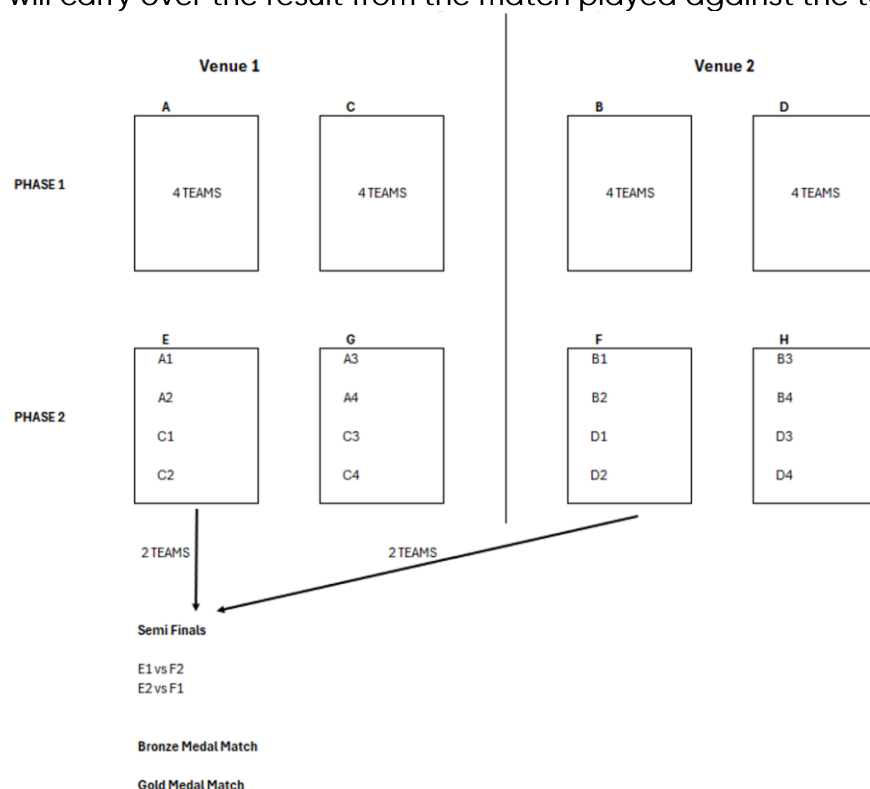
- Each of the National Federations involved has the right to apply for the organisation of the tournament.
- Should more than one National Federation apply for the organisation, the organisers will be drawn by the CEV. Or should no National Federation apply for the organisation, the organiser will be drawn by the CEV.
- In each pool, the first best placed team qualifies to the Final Phase. In case of a vacancy in the Final Phase, the next best placed team(s) across all pools not qualified yet will qualify to the Final Phase.

## QUALIFICATION DATES

Round	European Championships
1 <sup>st</sup> Round Qualifiers (organised by Zones)	Between 17th August and 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2026
2 <sup>nd</sup> Round Qualifiers	14 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> January 2027 Men 21 <sup>st</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup> January 2027 Women

## FINAL PHASE NEW FORMAT

The Final Round will maintain a format with 16 participating teams, divided into 4 pools of 4 teams after a Drawing of Lots. This Final Round will include a two-phase pool stage, followed by a final phase featuring the semi-finals (1–4) and the Bronze and Gold Medal matches. In Phase 2, each team will carry over the result from the match played against the team from their own pool.



## 5. 1<sup>st</sup> Round Qualifiers - Format and dates

Following the receipt of the confirmed list of registered teams, each Zonal Association must confirm to CEV their competition structure and dates by 26<sup>th</sup> June 2026 regarding the 1<sup>st</sup> Round Qualifiers.

## 6. 2<sup>nd</sup> Round Qualifiers

Following the completion of the 1<sup>st</sup> Round Qualifiers, CEV will confirm the teams qualified to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Round. Those 2<sup>nd</sup> Round pools will be defined by the Serpentine System, once the 2<sup>nd</sup> Round organisers are known and seeded as head of those 2<sup>nd</sup> Round pools.

## 7. 2<sup>nd</sup> Round Qualifiers - Organiser application

Forms to apply to organise the 2<sup>nd</sup> Round qualifiers will be sent to all participating teams in due time. The deadline to apply for the organisation of such tournaments will be shared through those same forms.

## 8. CEV U20 Volleyball European League

### 1. Period

The preferred competition period shall be determined in accordance with Article 13.2 §2 of the CEV Volleyball Competitions Regulations.

The proposed dates would run in parallel with the Final Phase of the respective category. However, a certain degree of flexibility should be maintained to allow alignment with the needs of the eventual organiser.

### 2. Competition Format

The proposed tournament format foresees the participation of **eight (8) teams**, following a structure similar to the current U22 Finals:

- Two pools of four teams each
- Semi-finals
- Bronze medal match
- Gold medal match

Should the number of registered teams be lower, the tournament may still be organised provided that at least **six (6) teams** participate.

### 3. Eligibility Criteria

- Participation in the CEV U20 Volleyball European League is **not mandatory**.
- Eligible teams shall consist of the organiser + **first seven (7) non-qualified teams following the 2nd qualification round**.
- Should a team allocated a place in the CEV U20 Volleyball European League decline participation, the slot shall be reallocated to the next best-ranked team after the 2nd Round.
- If the slot is eventually allocated to a team eliminated in the 1st qualification round, priority shall be given based on the **CEV European Ranking** of the respective category, as results from zonal rounds are not comparable.

### 4. Hosting and Application Procedure

- Each National Federation not qualified to the final phase is required to confirm its participation for the CEV U20 Volleyball European League with its respective Zonal Association, which will then forward the relevant information to the CEV.
- The application process for hosting the event shall follow this timeline:
  - Hosting applications open immediately after completion of the **1st qualification round** for those not progressing to the 2nd Round.
  - Application deadline set prior to the start of the **2nd qualification round**.
- Although this timeline may place teams eliminated in the 2nd round at a disadvantage, they would still be allowed to submit hosting applications in advance.
- In the absence of valid hosting applications from 1st round participants not qualified to the 2nd Round, the bidding process shall remain open until completion of the 2nd qualification round.

### 5. Ranking Points Allocation

Ranking points shall be awarded according to the final competition standings in the following order of priority:

1. Final Phase
2. CEV U20 Volleyball European League
3. 2nd Round Qualifiers
4. 1st Round (Zonal qualifiers)

For more details see Article 172.2.1 §2 of the CEV Volleyball Competitions Regulations.

## 9. FIVB U21 World Championships 2028

The FIVB will inform all NFs accordingly regarding the calendar and Continental quotas for this event.



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© Confédération Européenne de Volleyball · 2020  
488, route de Longwy, L-1940 Luxembourg  
Phone: +352 25 46 461 · [info@cev.eu](mailto:info@cev.eu) · [cev.eu](http://cev.eu)

