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## History of Beach Volleyball

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In 1930, the first two-man beach volleyball game was played at Santa Monica, California.

In 1948, the first official two-man beach tournament was held at State Beach in California.

In 1950's, Open tournaments held at five beaches in California.  
Santa Barbara  
State  
Corona Del Mar  
Laguna  
San Diego

In 1960's, Open tournaments held at eight beaches in California.  
Tahoe (added in late 60's)  
Santa Cruz  
Santa Barbara  
State  
Manhattan 1st Manhattan Beach Open - 1960  
Corona Del Mar  
Laguna  
San Diego

In 1974, the first money tournament was held.  
\$1,500 San Diego Open  
Won by Dennis Hare and Fred Zuelich  
250 spectators

In 1976, Olympia Championship of Beach Volleyball  
\$5,000 first prize  
Won by Menges/Lee  
30,000 spectators

Events Concepts founded.  
To promote and expand beach tour.

Von Hagen retires with record 62 Open Wins.

In 1978, Jose Cuervo Tequila enters as sport's first major sponsor.

In 1980, cash prizes for 7 tournaments.  
\$52,000 prize total (Jose Cuervo sponsor).  
San Diego, Santa Barbara, Laguna (\$5,000)  
Manhattan (\$10,000)  
King of Beach (\$12,000)  
World Championships (\$15,000)

In 1981, Miller Brewing Company joins as major sponsor.

In 1982, cash prizes for 6 tournaments.  
\$69,000 prize total (Miller Brewing sponsor).  
Tour becomes national, with Clearwater (Florida) Open.

In 1983, cash prizes for 12 tournaments.  
\$137,000 prize total (Miller Brewing sponsor).  
Tour stopped in 4 states (CA, FL, NY, CO)

Association of Volleyball Professionals (AVP) founded (July 21, 1983).  
The AVP was formed in an attempt to protect player interest  
and to preserve the integrity of beach volleyball  
in the midst of the ever-increasing commercial success  
of the sport.

In 1984, Tour stopped in 7 states (CA, FL, NY, CO, IL, AZ, HA)  
25 total events - Miller sponsored 18, Cuervo 7  
Player strike at World Championships, Redondo Beach.

In 1985, Bolle Sunglasses joins as major sponsor  
Total tour prize money reaches \$275,000.

In 1986, Sport receives cable television coverage with "Prime Ticket"  
Pro Beach Volleyball makes its network debut on  
ABC's Wide World of Sports.  
Tour goes international, Rio de Janeiro.

Women's Professional Volleyball Association (WPVA) formed.

In 1987, Tour stopped in 4 countries.  
Tour stopped in 9 states (CA, FL, NY, CO, IL, AZ, OH, WI, MA)

In 1988, cash prizes for 28 tournaments.

AVP signs 3 year agreement with Miller, calling for  
4.5 Million dollars.

Cuervo sponsors three \$100,000 events.

Miller hires AVP to produce 23 Lite Beer events.

In 1991, King of the Beach Event added to schedule

In 1993, NBC broadcasts 10 events

Estimated live attendance 600,000

\$3,700,000 total prize money.

September 21st, the International Olympic Committee  
(IOC) grants Beach Volleyball Olympic medal status.

In 1994, 27 total events

Evian sponsors indoor event at Madison Square Garden

Nestea sponsors four events

NBC broadcasts 10 events (21 hours)

\$4,000,000 total prize money

In 1995, 29 total events

Evian Indoor Tour expands to 4 events  
(Washington, Boston, Minneapolis, New York)

In 1996, at the Olympics in Atlanta, 24 men's teams and 16 women's teams will have the honor to represent their countries in the first ever Olympic Beach Volleyball Tournaments.

Dominant Players over Time

1950's Gene Selznick, Holtzman, Saenz

1960-1964 O'Hara, Bright

1965-1974 Von Hagen, Lang

1975-1979 Menges, Fishburn, Gage, D.Selznick

1980's Smith, Stoklos, Dodd, Hovland

1990's Kiraly, Steffes  
Kirby, Masakayan

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Olympic Volleyball - Past, Present, Future

<http://www.Volleyball.ORG/olympics>

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1996 Olympics - Atlanta, Georgia, USA

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Future Olympics:

•1998 Winter Olympics - Nagano, Japan •2000 Olympics - Sydney, Australia •2002 Winter Olympics - Salt Lake City •2004 Olympics - site to be determined Sep 5 1997

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Past Olympics:

Original Olympics 776BC to 393AD

Modern Olympics 1896-

Olympics with Indoor Volleyball 1964-  
Olympics with Beach Volleyball 1996-

•HISTORY OF VOLLEYBALL IN THE OLYMPICS

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