



KING AND QUEEN OF THE COURT

VLY BEACH TOUR – TOURNAMENT RULES

2023 SEASON

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1 – INTRODUCTION

The “King and Queen of the Court” format has been introduced by the CEV as a means of embracing new and contemporary formats in their event portfolio, and to provide additional playing opportunities to players.

2 – COMPETITION LOGISTICS

DATE & VENUE

The 2023 VLY Beach Tour King & Queen of the Court pilot event will take place on Saturday 15th July at Balbriggan Beach.

NUMBER OF COMPETING TEAMS

There will be 10 teams taking part in each of the Men’s and Women’s competitions.

REGISTRATION

Registration for each event will be through the Just Go portal.

Teams will be seeded according to their VLY Beach Tour rankings at the time of the event, with the rankings aggregated according to the individual rankings of the two team members.

PLAYER WITHDRAWALS & REPLACEMENTS

The procedure for replacing players who withdraw from a team are as laid out in the VLY Beach Tour Handbook.

CLOTHING

To aid the identification and scoring process for each match, team members are asked to wear the same-coloured shirts for each match.

3 – COMPETITION FORMAT & MATCH RULES

TEAMS

- Each team will consist of two players and each match will be played with five teams.
- Before the start of each first-round game, there will be a draw to determine which team has the benefit of starting on the winner's side (aka King's/Queen's side). This draw will take place immediately prior to the start of each match. One member from each team picks a playing card, with the team picking the King/Queen starting on the King's/Queen's side. The service order is then confirmed in descending order of the value of the cards drawn.
- If a player is injured during the match, they can be treated at courtside, but the match will continue without that team – once the injured player is fit to resume, they will re-join the match in the same order that was in place at the start of the match.

GAMES

- Each game is played on a regular sized volleyball court. One side of the court is called the King's/Queen's court, and the other the Challenger court.
- The King's/Queen's side of the court is the only side of the court where a team can score points.
- The Challenger's side of the court is where teams can challenge the current 'Kings' or 'Queens'. When a team wins a point on the challenger side, the teams swap courts, with the challengers moving to the King's/Queen's side and vice-versa.
- Each rally starts with a serve from the team on the challenger's side, and that team can decide which member will serve. There is no limit on the number of times each member of a team can serve.
- If the team on the King's/Queen's side wins the rally, they earn one point, and remain on the King's/Queen's side. The challengers who lose the point are replaced on the challenger's court by the next team in the order determined at the start of the game.
- There will be a maximum of 10 seconds between the end of one rally and the beginning of the next one.
- When a rally begins, the game will be played according to regular beach volleyball rules.
- Teams are not permitted to call a time-out during a game.

POINTS

- If a team on the challenger's side makes a serving mistake, no points are awarded to the team on the King's/Queen's side, with the following exceptions:
 - Three consecutive serving mistakes will earn one point to the team on the King's/Queen's side, and
 - In the last minute of a game, every service mistake will result in a point being earned by the team on the King's/Queen's side.

- In the event of a point being earned because of three consecutive serving mistakes, the count resets to zero for the purposes of this rule.
- In the first round, the 10 teams will be split into two games of five teams each. At the end of those games, the top two teams from each will progress directly to the final. The teams finishing fourth of fifth in each game will then play-off in a single 15-minute match, with the top two teams moving forward to a second play-off against the teams finishing third in the first round, in another single 15-minute match. The winner of that second play-off will progress to the final.

TIME PER GAME

- Each game consists of three rounds, each of 15 minutes' duration. At the end of each 15-minute round, the team with the lowest number of points in that game is eliminated from that game. In the event of two teams finishing a round with the same points total, the team with the shortest time on the King's/Queen's side will be eliminated.
- After 10 minutes in each round, there will be a time-out of one minute. That time-out will begin when the rally in progress at the 10-minute mark is completed.
- The final round of a game shall be played over a maximum of 15 minutes, or until one team wins 15 points, whichever is the sooner.
- A noise will sound at the end of each round, and the rally in progress when that sound is made shall be completed, and any point scored will count.
- **Players are encouraged to watch the playing order during each game to ensure that any delays or scoring issues are avoided.**

4 – PLAYING SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY

The following schedule shall be used purely as a guide to the logistics on the day.

Please note that due to the nature of the day's event, there may be delays through the day owing to rules queries, software/scoring issues and any other unintended issues arising. In addition, delays may arise during matches, for which we thank all players in advance for their co-operation.

COURT 1 (MEN)	COURT 2 (WOMEN)
Briefing	Briefing
Round 1, Game 1 (45 mins)	Round 1, Game 1 (45 mins)
Round 1, Game 2 (45 mins)	Round 1, Game 2 (45 mins)
Play-Off 1 (15 mins)	Play-Off 1 (15 mins)
Play-Off 2 (15 mins)	Play-Off 2 (15 mins)
Consolation Final (45 mins)	Final (45 mins)
Final (45 mins)	Consolation Final (45 mins)

4th & 5th x2
3rd x2 & P/O1 Top 2

Timings for each round to be confirmed.



Please also note that in extreme circumstances, the playing format of the day and/or playing rules may be changed at the discretion of VLY in conjunction with the competition referees.