

CEV Volleyball European League 2026

Final Six

Candidature Application Guideline





PREAMBLE FROM CEV PRESIDENT

Dear friends,

In keeping a key promise from my presidential campaign, we are moving forward with our efforts to streamline our competition portfolio as well as to improve opportunities for National Federations and their players.

With the 2026 edition, we are raising the profile and value of the CEV Volleyball European League as it becomes a EuroVolley qualifying event and pathway. This will motivate teams and players to perform to the best of their ability in order to secure their EuroVolley appearance in 2028 as early as possible.

I do believe that this move will be highly beneficial for the European volleyball community at large, since it helps rationalise resources, improves media coverage and visibility and opens up more opportunities for sponsors and partners to associate

themselves with a competition that has never been as relevant as it is now.

With this in mind, your Federation should have more than enough reasons to come forward with a plan to deliver the climax of the European League – the innovative Final Six where as many as four slots to compete at EuroVolley in 2028 will be at stake – both in 2026 as well as in 2027.

I look forward to working with you to deliver a highly successful and memorable European League and to elevating the profile of this competition to truly unprecedented heights!

Sincerely yours,

Roko SIKIRIĆ
CEV President

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Bidding for the CEV Volleyball European League 2026 and 2027 Final Six - Men/Women

These Candidature Application Guidelines aim to serve as a framework to all National Federations and their partners who are interested in bidding to host the Final Six tournaments of the CEV Volleyball European League 2026 and 2027 Men/Women and to guide potential bidders through the application steps and subsequently the final event delivery.

Please note that the same Guidelines apply for both editions. However, the application is for each edition and gender separately. Please indicate for which edition and gender you are applying when you sign the Letter of Commitment.

Qualification to EuroVolley 2028

As a reference to the slot allocation to EuroVolley 2028 stated in the CEV Volleyball European League Official Communication No. 1, for the avoidance of doubt, 2 different scenarios regarding the host of the Final Six:

- If the host of the Final Six is not among the top 6 teams of the League round: The host of the Final Six must win the title to secure qualification to EuroVolley 2028. If the host does not win the title, the next best team from the European League final standing at the end of the Final Six will qualify.
- If the host of the Final Six is among the top 6 teams of the League round: The host may qualify to the EuroVolley 2028 depending on their ranking at the end of the Final Six.

Tournament Overview

- Name: **CEV Volleyball European League 2026 Final Six**
- Official logo of the competition:



- Competition format and schedule overview (per gender):
 - One tournament with six (6) teams playing in two (2) pools with three (3) teams each. The best two (2) of each pool cross in semi-final matches. Semi-final winners compete for the gold medal match, and losers play the bronze medal match.

Pool matches	3 days
Two (2) semi-final matches	1 day
Gold medal and bronze medal matches	1 day

- The CEV European League Final Six 2026 Men and Women tournament will be organized on 01-05.07.2026.

Bidding Fee

The required bidding fee to host the Final Six of the CEV Volleyball European League 2026 and 2027 Men/Women is:

- Minimum 100,000 Euros (one hundred thousand Euros) per gender.

Financial Conditions

All participants contribute with a contribution fee, according to Art. 127.6§3 of the CEV Volleyball Competition Regulations.

Bidding Deadline

The CEV must receive all original application documents to host the Final Six of the CEV Volleyball European League 2026 and 2027 Men/Women no later than
Monday, 8th December 2025 at 10:00 CET

Therefore, shipment duration and delivery parameters from your respective country to Luxembourg shall be taken thoroughly into consideration.

All applications received after this date will not be accepted by the CEV.

Bidding Delivery

Interested Organisers shall send their complete candidature following the below procedures and method of delivery:

- **Two (2) coloured application copies** including signed Letter of Commitment in a sealed envelope to be sent to the CEV Headquarters in Luxembourg only via registered post to the following address:

CEV Volleyball European League 2026 **or** 2027 / Men **or** Women

CEV - Confédération Européenne de Volleyball
488, route de Longwy, L-1940 Luxembourg – Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

For confidentiality purposes, no electronic copy via email or any other digital communication channels will be accepted by the CEV.

▪ **Bidding Commitment**

Each bid must be accompanied by the respective duly completed and signed Bid Commitment letter (such document is provided as attachment).

By submitting a bid, the National Federation confirms that through the entire evaluation and assignment process and, if successful, the organization of the respective tournament will duly accept and adhere to all CEV requirements and regulations.

The following criteria will also be considered favourable in the process of evaluation of the applications:

1. Unique and special candidatures that will allow further development of Volleyball in Europe.
2. Long-term commitments to organise Volleyball events.
3. Application's level of completion and detail will also be one of the evaluating criteria. Explanation as to how your candidature would increase the level of the CEV competition along with concrete plans and actions exceeding the requirements of the CEV Volleyball Competitions Regulations.

The Organiser's Appointment Process

4 Basic Steps



STEP 1 – Application

The CEV invites you to apply for the organisation of the Final Six of the CEV Volleyball European League 2026 and 2027 Men/Women. The Application process is based on respect, fairness and honesty. The practice of taking other candidates' concepts or ideas will not be tolerated.

The appointment of the Organiser is based on a bidding process. Any Application shall be presented and written in English and respect the following procedures:

- In accordance with the bidding deadline as set on page 4.
- In accordance with the bidding delivery procedures as set on page 5.
- All data provided shall always be factual, accurate, and precise.

The application process requires any applicants to obtain authorisations and guarantees from third-party providers. Each Applicant shall also appoint one individual representative as main contact for the CEV, during the entire bidding process.

Any person involved in the process shall act in accordance with the principles mentioned in the CEV and FIVB Regulatory Framework.

All related textual content, graphics, videos, visual imagery and creations developed by or on behalf of the applying National Federation shall be vested in and remain the full ownership of the CEV. The CEV also reserves the right to use all the received information and content across its media and digital channels.

Requests for additional assistance and in case of further questions during the Application process please contact: nationalteams@cev.eu

STEP 2 - Evaluation

The CEV evaluates the applications based on the documentation provided as well as the experience with previous event organisations in the respective countries.

For sake of higher transparency and confidentiality, appointed persons by the CEV authority will be responsible of officially opening the sealed envelopes containing the applications and legally binding confirm that both the seals have not been broken before and the envelopes are only opened in their presence.

STEP 3 - Award

The CEV appoints the Organiser at the end of the evaluation process.

Should it be appointed by the CEV, the future Candidate will automatically become the Organiser of the respective CEV competition.

Public announcement of the appointed Organisers will be made in collaboration with the CEV.

Step 4 - Execution

The CEV will send to the confirmed Organiser a comprehensive Organiser Agreement to be signed by the parties.

The Organiser and the CEV work in full collaboration throughout the implementation process to deliver a professional event for all involved stakeholders.

The CEV competition will be organised and prepared following site visits, meetings and conference calls including timetable of actions to follow and a masterplan for the event delivery that will be agreed with the Organiser.

The Applicant and required Information

Expectations, Quaestions,
Documents (EQD)



Applications Requirements

The present section aims to support each Candidate to identify key organising aspects in the staging of the Final Six of the CEV Volleyball European League 2026 and 2027 Men/Women. Furthermore, its main objective is to provide the CEV with the necessary information and data to properly evaluate and assess each of the Applications.

Lastly, the following requirements do not aim to mirror the requirements of the CEV competition, which are mentioned in the CEV Volleyball Competitions Regulations and National Team Guidelines, but rather provide a precise overview to each potential Organiser on how to professionally stage the Final Six of the CEV Volleyball European League 2026 and 2027 Men/Women.

For your information, the following symbols are used throughout the bidding document:

-  means “expectations from the CEV”
-  means “questions to be answered”
-  means “documents to be provided”

Chapter 1: The Organiser

In this chapter, we would like to know more about you and your partners.

Concept

- E** Present a clear vision and objectives.
- E** Outline the sportive, social and economic impacts related to your Application.
- E** Provide a brief explanation about how you intend to use the event to further develop the sport in your country and how it could contribute to the promotion of Volleyball across Europe, more particularly in terms of grassroots development and media coverage.
- D** A summary statement including vision, objectives, strengths and weaknesses, challenges and opportunities shall be provided.

Finance

- C** Have you considered all the potential expenses and incurred cost related to the organization of the CEV competition?
- C** Have you established a profit and loss statement based on previous event experience, mainly of the CEV competitions?
- C** Have you foreseen a budget buffer for unforeseen events?

Management Team & Workforce

- E** An experienced, structured and skillful management team is essential for a professional event delivery.
- C** Do you use the services of external companies and/or providers? If yes, in which specific areas?
- D** A complete event organisational chart with full names, titles and key functions.

Example of key functions that have to be specified and covered in the Application:

- a. Technical Manager
- b. Event Manager
- c. Sports Presentation Manager
- d. Press Officer
- e. Marketing & Promotion Manager
- f. TV Manager

- g. Transportation & Accommodation Manager
- h. Ticketing, Accreditation & Security Manager
- i. Volunteers Manager

Chapter 2: Staging the Competition

In this chapter, we are sharing with you the key information on the competition format as well as requirements related to the actual staging of the Final Six of the CEV Volleyball European League 2026 and 2027 Men/Women.

Host city

- E** One (1) Host City with appropriate resources to support the CEV competition.

Venue

- E** The main competition hall must fulfil minimum CEV category 2 with the capacity of 2,500 seats. More particularly:
 - Minimum height 9 meters
 - Competition area: 35 x 23 meters
 - Lighting configuration: 1,500 lux
- E** The competition hall must be completely clear of all advertising, both inside the arena and on the exterior of the building.
- E** Within the appropriate venue, the Organiser shall follow the CEV match technology requirements as stated in the CEV Volleyball Competition Regulations, Article 95 as mentioned in the Official Communication N°1.

Chapter 3: Event Experience & Entertainment

In this chapter, we would like to emphasise the importance of delivering an exciting and memorable event to the volleyball fans and spectators. Using certain elements of the sport presentation, side events, branding, and many other entertainment elements shall raise the value of this top event to the next level.

- E** High quality concept of venue branding and entertaining programme for the Volleyball fans
- E** Attractive players' introduction & starting team presentation highlighting the players as well as lifting the atmosphere in the hall before the match.
- E** Entertainment before & during the match including breaks (timeouts and between sets) using mascot, air guns with merchandise and other innovative ways to interact with the fans.
- E** Fans experiencing Volleyball via number of fan activation stands – spike / serve speed or other interactive games.

- Organise side events with cultural content before / after the event at the hall close proximity – food festival, concert, etc.
- What kind of equipment will be used in the hall for the sport presentation? (sound system, light system, giant screen, LED perimeter, etc.)

Chapter 4: Commercial Rights Consideration

In this chapter, we are sharing with you additional information on marketing related activities, sponsors and commercial rights available. This section also includes further details on media rights & sport broadcast production expectations.

All commercial and media rights transfer in relation to the CEV competition will be clearly stated in the Organiser agreement.

Marketing rights

The following commercial rights are granted to the organiser who shall present a successful marketing programme in order to attract sponsors and partners, with the detail as follows:

The exclusive rights to:

- 60% of a total rotating sequence of 360 seconds on the dynamic advertisement system (LED) located around the Playing area,
- 100% player bench advertising,
- 60% of the advertisement on giant video screens in the Competition Hall,
- 60% of backdrop visibility,
- Ticketing income, except for the predefined contingent of tickets reserved by CEV (50 VIP tickets, 50 Normal tickets),
- 100% income of VIP & hospitality, except for predefined CEV & CEV Commercial partners' hospitality rights,
- 100% of Commercial village outside or inside the hall, except for the CEV Commercial partners' rights requirements,
- organise a Host city Fan zone project.

The non-exclusive rights to:

- Host city dressing and branding,
- European promotional campaign,
- Social media promotion,
- Competition venue branding with the official CEV competition layout,
- Organise entertainment and side events (in and outside the Competition Hall and in the Host city),
- Print and advertising material,

- Organiser's workforce (staff and volunteers) dress-up.

Sponsors and partners can be contracted in any category, except for the following reserved & protected categories by CEV:

- Airlines,
- Banking,
- Betting and Gambling services*,
- Body and healthcare product,
- Courier services and logistics,
- Cryptocurrency & Digital Assets with the following areas covered:
 - Cryptocurrency exchanges (e.g., Binance, Coinbase)
 - Digital wallets and custodians (e.g., Ledger, Metamask)
 - Blockchain infrastructure providers (e.g., Polygon, Solana)
 - Token issuers (e.g., companies issuing utility, governance, or fan tokens)
 - NFT platforms and marketplaces (e.g., OpenSea, Rarible)
 - DeFi (Decentralized Finance) platforms and protocols
- Sports equipment – Volleyballs and sports flooring,
- Sportswear.

* For the avoidance of doubt, although the gambling and betting services sector and/or category is reserved for the CEV, the Organiser may exploit based on prior written agreement of the CEV, the category for the National lottery, provided that their sports betting operations are in no way presented under the same brand as their National lottery operations. Thus, advertising for gambling and betting services is strictly prohibited.

Use and exploit the following naming rights:

- National Supplier,
- National Partner,
- Local Supplier,
- Local Partner,
- Host city,
- Host city of the “CEV Volleyball European League 2026/2027 Men/Women” Final Six

Media Rights & Host Broadcast Production Obligation

Media Rights Granting

The CEV is granting to the National Federation appointed as Organiser of the Final Six the non-exclusive domestic media rights in relation to all the matches produced in its territory in exchange of the production of such matches as per the CEV Volleyball Competition Regulations - Section 7: Media Production.

For the avoidance of any doubt, all other media rights not indicated here are solely retained by the CEV and the CEV Sport Media Agency.

There is also no media rights reciprocity allowed between the Organiser and the participating National Federation. For the Participating Federations wishing to acquire the media rights of their respective matches, they shall contact the CEV Sport Media Agency below to acquire the relevant rights:

- Mrs. Ottavia Perra, Director Media Sales / Ottavia.Perra@infrontsports.com
- Mrs. Michela Cugnasca, Media Sales / michela.cugnasca@infrontsports.com
- Mrs. Deborah Termanini, Media Operations / Deborah.Termanini@infrontsports.com

All above detailed will be outlined in the TV-01 form to be duly completed and signed by the National Federation and its appointed host broadcaster.

Production obligation

The appointed organising National Federations for the Final Six shall produce all scheduled matches as per the below minimum broadcasting requirements (standard B of the Volleyball Regulations):

- World Feed signal is in HD 16:9
- Number of cameras: 6 HD cameras
- Match signal delivery*: via well-established European satellite only (Eutelsat 7B or 10A carrier)
- Graphics: integration of official CEV TV graphics package (files to be provided by the CEV prior to the tournament)
- Contact details: NF to provide to the CEV contact details of their host broadcaster or local production company 3 weeks prior to the start of the tournament.

**For the avoidance of any doubt, it is the responsibility of the appointed National Federation to provide to the CEV and the CEV Sport Media Agency free-of-charge a TV signal with DVB-S2 standard via an established European satellite such as Eutelsat 7B or Eutelsat 10A. A Eutelsat certified SNG HD fully redundant (1+1) capable of transmission DVB-S2 2 MPEG4/H.264 4:2:0 or 4:2:2 with BISS 1 Encryption.*

The complete satellite parameters are provided in English to the CEV and CEV Sport Media Agency no later than seven (7) days before the start of the competition.

The Organiser of the Final Six event shall provide the necessary technical support to its appointed host broadcaster to produce the matches including additional camera platforms, commentary positions, sufficient lighting, access to venue/accreditation, security, power supply and internet connectivity.

Chapter 5: Services

In this chapter, we are sharing with you the CEV's expectations in relation to the services offered to key CEV stakeholders including but not limited to teams, delegation members, officials & VIPs, accredited representatives, media partners and Volleyball fans.

Accommodation

- E** The same level of full board accommodation shall be provided and covered by the organiser to all participating teams starting 1 day prior to the start of the first match. Each team delegation will consist of 20 people (up to 14 players and up to 6 Team officials) to be accommodated in 8 twin rooms and 4 single rooms.
- E** In addition to the above, the participating teams can bring a maximum of 5 extra team officials to be accommodated in maximum 3 rooms. The respective participating teams will cover these supplementary expenses.
- E** The same level of full board accommodation shall be provided and covered for the appointed CEV officials and operational staff starting 1 day prior to the start of the first match (according to list provided by CEV in a due time), **except for the CEV Supervisor** who should arrive 2 days prior to the start of the competition. Final allotment and room numbers to be confirmed by the CEV at a later stage.
- E** The Organiser shall cover the accommodation costs for all CEV Officials and Referees in accordance with the CEV Competition Regulations.
- E** All hotels must provide free high-speed wireless internet access for all CEV stakeholders including but not limited to participating teams, appointed Officials and Referees and CEV representatives on-site.
- E** Food & beverages services at selected hotels shall be flexible and in accordance to the competition timetable. Volleyball nutrition complexities and requirements shall also be respected in the development of menus for respective teams. All menus shall respect a variety of meat, pasta/rice, vegetables, salad, fruits and snacks.
- D** A list of available hotels for teams, CEV officials and Media with corresponding details (including but not limited to type of rooms, meeting rooms capacity and contact details.)

Transportation, Visa and Per Diem

- E** Perfect logistics in the host country in relation to transportation are essential for the smooth running of the competition.
- E** The Organiser shall cover the national and international travel costs for all CEV Officials, CEV Supervisor, CEV Referee Coach and Referees in accordance with the CEV Competition Regulations.
- E** The Organiser shall bear Per Diem costs for CEV Supervisor, CEV Referee Coach and Referees.
- E** If required, the Organiser shall guarantee an easy and fast procedure to obtain corresponding visas to all CEV Stakeholders.

Accreditation & Security

- Delivery of adequate security measures and assessment of plans for ensuring a safe competition.
- Clear security plan and staffing proposal.
- A zoning plan considering access control for accredited and not accredited people.

Medical & anti-doping

- Provision of all required medical services for the competition, including:
- All equipment, first aid, qualified staff and associated medical services.
- Describe the anti-doping legislation and governance for doping in your country.
- Delivery of necessary qualified personnel to deliver the medical services in the selected venue and training areas.
- Coordinate the alcohol test and health check for the referees, line judges and scorers.
- Access to medical services also off competition hours.

Letter of Commitment

Please print the following text on the official letterhead of your National Federation. The names of all parties and their representatives shall be included at the end of the text. Please return one original to the CEV office, together with your application.

If the application is submitted by more than one entity, all entities shall sign only one original.

Dear Mr President,

We hereby submit our application to host the CEV Volleyball European League 2026 and/or 2027 Men/Women Final Six, hereinafter “the CEV competition”:

- ☐ 2026 Men
- ☐ 2026 Women
- ☐ 2027 Men
- ☐ 2027 Women

This letter constitutes a formal declaration of intent and pre-contractual commitment. It expresses our serious, clear and unequivocal commitment to organising said CEV competition. We fully are prepared to deliver, to the best of our abilities, a competition of the highest standard, one that will be recognised by fans, media and partners as an international event, in accordance with the requirements and standards established by the CEV.

Our application is complete, true, accurate, realistic, based on existing and verified data and in full compliance with the CEV Application Guidelines and Regulatory Framework.

We own, have ,or will obtain, in due time, all the necessary and appropriate rights, licences, consents, skilled personnel, workforce, facilities, and other resources to comply with the CEV requirements and implement the content of our application.

By submitting this application, we irrevocably, fully and unconditionally undertake to organise the CEV competition in accordance with the information provided and in compliance with the CEV regulations.

We acknowledge and agree that, upon the CEV’s official appointment of our organisation as Host, this signed Commitment Letter together with our submitted application shall automatically constitute a binding agreement between the CEV and ourselves for the organisation of the CEV Competition.

Until such appointment, this letter shall serve as a binding expression of our intent and commitment to host the event, and our application shall remain valid and irrevocable for consideration by the CEV Board.

Yours sincerely,

Place

Date

Name of NF President, signature and seal



CEV Publications
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