



USA Volleyball
www.usavolleyball.org

HISTORICAL TIMELINE

1895

William G. Morgan, an instructor at the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) in Holyoke, Mass., decided to blend elements of basketball, baseball, tennis, and handball to create a game for his classes of businessmen which would demand less physical contact than basketball. He created the game of Volleyball (at that time called mintonette). Morgan borrowed the net from tennis, and raised it 6 feet 6 inches above the floor, just above the average man's head. During a demonstration game, someone remarked to Morgan that the players seemed to be volleying the ball back and forth over the net, and perhaps "volleyball" would be a more descriptive name for the sport. On July 7, 1896 at Springfield College the first game of "volleyball" was played.

1900

A specific ball was designed for the sport.

1916

In the Philippines, an offensive style of passing the ball in a high trajectory to be struck by another player (the set and spike) were introduced.

1917

The game was changed from 21 to 15 points.

1920

Three hits per side and back row attack rules were instituted.

1922

The first YMCA national championships were held in Brooklyn, NY. 27 teams from 11 states were represented.

1928

The United States Volleyball Association (USVBA, now USA Volleyball) was formed. The first U.S. Open was staged, as the field was open to non-YMCA squads.

1930

The first two-man beach game was played.

1934

The approval and recognition of national volleyball referees.

1937

At the AAU convention in Boston, action was taken to recognize the U.S. Volleyball Association as the official national governing body in the U.S.A

1947

The International Volleyball Federation (FIVB) was founded.

1948

The first two-man beach tournament was held.

1949

The first World Championships were held in Prague, Czechoslovakia.

1964

Volleyball was introduced to the Olympic Games in Tokyo.

1965

The California Beach Volleyball Association (CBVA) was formed.

1974

The World Championships in Mexico were telecast throughout Japan.

1975

The US National Women's team began a year-round training regime in Pasadena, Texas (moved to Colorado Springs in 1979, Coto de Caza and Fountain Valley, CA in 1980, and San Diego, CA in 1985).

1977

The US National Men's team begins a year-round training regime in Dayton, Ohio (moved to San Diego, CA in 1981).

1983

The Association of Volleyball Professionals (AVP) was formed.

1984

The US won their first medals at the Olympics in Los Angeles. The Men won the Gold, and the Women the Silver.

1986

The Women's Professional Volleyball Association (WPVA) was formed

1987

The FIVB added a Beach Volleyball World Championship Series.

1988

The US Men repeat the Gold in the Olympics in Korea.

1989

The FIVB Sports Aid Program was created.

1990

The World League was created.

1992

USA Men and Women Olympic Teams win Bronze medals

1995

The sport of Volleyball was 100 years old!

1996

Two-person beach volleyball was added to the Olympics.

USA Men win Gold and Silver medals in Olympic Beach Volleyball

1997

USA Men and Women's Team move to the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, CO for year round training

1998

Rally Scoring for all sets, and Libero position created. FIVB goes over 200 nations in membership.

2000

USA win's Olympic Beach Gold in Men's competition, 4th for indoor women

2004

USA wins Olympic Beach Gold and Bronze in women's competition,
4th for indoor men

USA Sitting Women's Paralympic Team win Bronze medal

2007

USA Women and Men win Beach World Championships

2008

USA Men Win FIVB World League

USA Wins Olympic Gold in Men's indoor, Women and Men's beach
and Silver in Women's indoor

Paralympic Silver for Women's Sitting Team

2009

USA Men Qualify for World League Finals

USA Women Win Beach World Championships, USA men Bronze
medal