

2.1. COMPETITION FORMULA

2.1.1. INTERCONTINENTAL ROUND 18TH MAY – 1ST JULY, VARIOUS CITIES

16 teams distributed in 4 pools of 4 teams. In each pool, they play a four teams round robin tournament in each country of the pool:

Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D
RUS	BRA	ITA	ARG
CUB	POL	USA	BUL
SRB	FIN	FRA	GER
JPN	CAN	KOR	POR

- ④ 4 week-ends from 18th May – 1st July 2012
- ④ 4 tournaments for each team (4 weekends)
 - ④ 3 rounds away
 - ④ 1 round at home
- ④ Each tournament is played over three days (usually from Friday to Sunday) with 2 matches per day. Total matches of each tournament: 6 (3 per team)
- ④ 12 matches for each team: Total of 96 matches for the Intercontinental Round. Pool's classification according to Specific Comp regulations chapter 3.1.
- ④ The winners of each pool (4), the best second of all pools (1) and the host country (1) are qualified for the final round. Total 6 teams qualified

OR, if the host country is also the winner of its pool

- ④ The winners of each pool (4) and the two best second of all pools (2). Total 6 teams qualified

a. 2.1.2. FINAL ROUND 4-8TH JULY 2012, SOFIA, BULGARIA

Team distribution:

2 pools ("E" and "F") of three teams each, as follows:

Pool E	Pool F
ORG	A1
C1	B1
D1*	Best Second

- ④ If Bulgaria finishes 1st (as D1) , then the D1 slot will be given to the first best second, and the second best second will go to pool F.

Pool Matches (4-6th of July):

Round Robin system

Schedule & Order of matches

Organisers are in charge of the order of the matches, following FIVB regulation and approval.

Team ranking:

According to the Specific competition regulation (see chapter 3). The two top teams will advance to the Semi-Finals. Teams ranked 3rd are eliminated.

Final Four (7-8 of July)

The first of each pool will meet the second of the other pool in crossed semi-finals.

Winners of the two semis will play for the FIVB Volleyball World League 2012 Title whilst losers will play for the 3rd place of the competition.

2.1.3. QUALIFICATION ROUNDS – 15TH AUGUST, 15TH SEPTEMBER

Teams ranked 15th and 16th of the FIVB Volleyball World League 2012 will have to play one Qualification Round to confirm their participation in the 2013 edition.

1. First Round

The first round of Qualifications is played by four "challenger" teams coming from the following four zones: CEV, AVC, CAVB, and a zone formed by the two American confederations, CSV and NORCECA.

CEV Challenger plays the NORCECA-CSV Challenger in one leg. CAVB Challenger plays the AVC Challenger in the second leg.

The Challenger with the best World Ranking in each leg hosts his opponent two times in the same week end. The winner of each confrontation is qualified for the second round of Qualification.

2. Second Round

The two Challengers qualified own the home advantage. Each of them hosts the World League team ranked 15th or 16th for two matches in the same week end. The opponent of each challenger is determined according to the Specific Competition Regulation.

The winner of each leg is qualified for the FIVB Volleyball World League 2012.

For more detailed information regarding this event, the full Specification Competition Regulation is available upon request to the Sports Events Department