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Dear friends,

This book tells the story of an exciting chapter in the FIVB's history, a chapter which will come to define the future of our sport and a chapter which will live long in the memory.

At the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, we entertained and enthralled the watching world with spectacular beach volleyball and volleyball competitions that became the signature events of the Games.

In many ways, Rio 2016 was a Games of firsts for the FIVB. We had countries competing for the very first time in Olympic competitions, record-breaking performances and new technologies and innovations which lit up Copacabana beach and Maracanazinho.

We set the benchmark for dynamic sporting entertainment and created unrivalled levels of fan engagement. Our innovative sports presentation including impressive lighting and features such as "monster block" helped facilitate a greater appreciation of the sport and its athletes by improving fans' understanding of the game and ensured there was a party atmosphere at every game.

Rio also marked the very first time we had a dedicated Volleyball House at an Olympic Games, which was located in a school on the iconic Copacabana Beach. It epitomised our innovative and pioneering vision for the future of the sport and has left a sustainable legacy for generations of school kids.

The FIVB took a huge big step forward in Rio, and I am now looking forward to working with you to write the next chapter in our history.

Dr. Ary S. Graça F° FIVB President



LIGHT UP RIO

Pushing the frontiers of technology and innovation, the FIVB introduced tablets for referees and coaches, intercom between officials, and video challenge to be called by coaches for both beach volleyball and volleyball, representing a marked change in technology from London 2012.







Volleyball replay challenge system at Olympics for first time





LA Lakers DJ gets the beach volleyball party started in Rio

In Rio, volleyball and beach volleyball were more than just sporting events; they were an entertainment spectacle, which turned watching spectators into passionate fans.

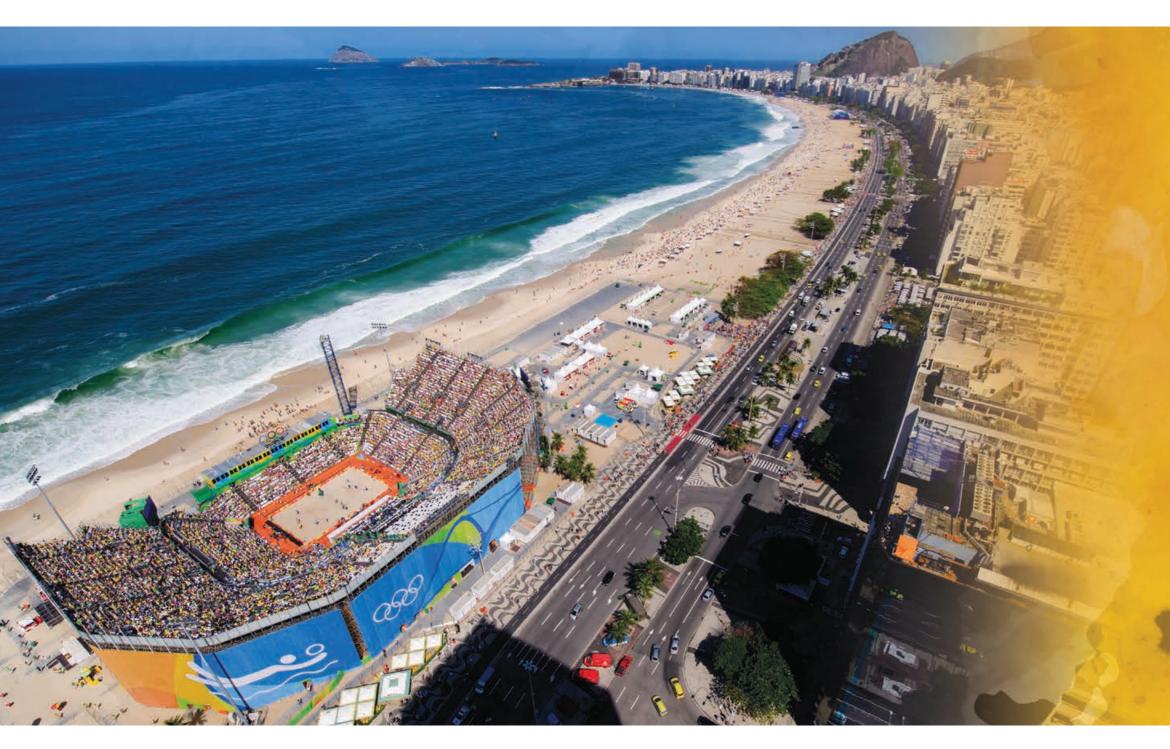






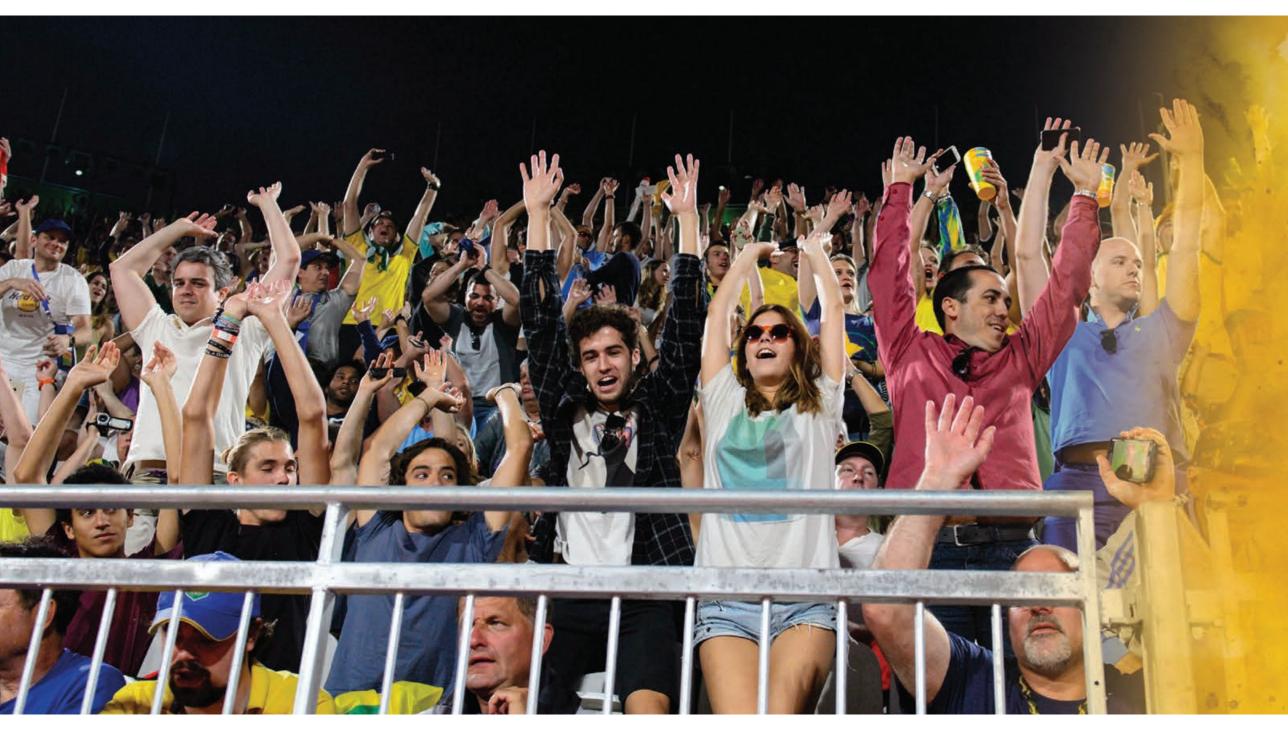
# sports at Rio 2016. **IN RIO**





The temporary beach volleyball venue was built with more than 785 tons of steel and stood 22m high above the sands of Copacabana. It was only the second beach volleyball venue at the Olympic Games to be constructed on a natural beach after Bondi at **Sydney 2000.** 





Fans of all ages and nationalities were invited to become a part of the spectacle and enjoy the festive ambience with music and "monster block" and "super spike" blasting out to the enthusiastic crowd. A total of 108 men's and women's matches were played over 13 days.



# The sporting spectacle captured the interest of the press around the world.

#### Hessische Allgemeine



















In the women's tournament, Germany's Laura Ludwig and Kira Walkenhorst won their first Olympic gold medal beating Brazil's Ágatha and Bárbara 2-0 (21-18, 21-14) in 43 minutes.

Germany now has back-to-back Olympic beach volleyball champions as Ludwig and Walkenhorst join London 2012 men's gold medal winners Julius Brink and Jonas Reckermann.





USA's Kerri Walsh
Jennings and April Ross
beat Brazil's Larissa
França and Talita
Antunes 2-1 (17-21,
21-17,15-9) to the
bronze medal.
Having only ever lost one beach

Having only ever lost one beach volleyball match since the Olympic Games in Athens in 2004, it was Walsh Jennings' fourth time in a row on the Olympic Games podium. Her bronze medal added to her impressive collection of successive gold medals at Athens 2004, Beijing 2008 and London 2012.









**Alexander Brouwer and Robert Meeuwsen** became the first Dutch side to win an Olympic medal when they held off the challenge of Russia's **Konstantin Semenov and** Viacheslav Krasilnikov. The Dutch pair won 2-0 (23-21, 24-22) playing four match points before securing victory.

Brouwer and Meeuwsen became the first Dutch team to win the FIVB Beach Volleyball World Championships when they triumphed in 2013. At Rio 2016, they bettered Reinder Nummerdor and Richard Schuil's fourth place finish at London 2012.





The Rio 2016 Olympic Games beach volleyball competition will be remembered for inspiring athletes, record breaking performances, passionate crowds, anniversary celebrations and generating interest.

### **Egypt takes centre stage**

Egypt's Doaa Elghobashy and Nada Meawad became the first women from a Muslim country to compete at an Olympic Games beach volleyball competition.

Few could have predicted that the picture juxtaposing Elgobashy's and Walkenhorst's uniform would become an overnight sensation.











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## A triumph of passion over experience

#CUB Nivaldo Siaz and Sergio Gonzalez have shaken the expected order at Copacabana #Rio2016

#### @FIVBBeach

Cuban men's pair
Nivaldo Diaz and Sergio
Gonzalez caught the
imagination of the crowd by topping
their group, beating one of the Brazilian
favourites and the Austrians to propel
themselves to the quarterfinals in their
first ever Olympic Games. They had only
competed in one FIVB World Tour event
together before Rio and only narrowly
missed out on a semifinal place.



#### Qataris make history

@QatarVolleyball's make
history as they make the
elimination stage:
#Rio2016

#### @FIVBinRio

Jefferson Pereira and Cherif Younousse became the first ever Qatari side to win an Olympic beach volleyball match. Jefferson and Cherif fought back from losing the opening set to experienced Spanish duo Pablo Herrera and Adrian Gavira to win 2-1 (13-21, 21-18, 15-12).

#### Beach volleyball: An international attraction

Team USA welcomed US Secretary of State, John Kerry to the courts of Copacabana in the first week of competition and encouraged him to try his hand at the sport.



Today our Royal family came visit and talk with the athletes! SO privileged to meet and talk with them...

#### @M\_Meppelink

Also showing their support for their home teams were the King and Queen of the Netherlands.



### 20th anniversary celebration

2016 marked the 20th anniversary of the inaugural Olympic Games beach volleyball competition at Atlanta 1996. The event was celebrated with a Legends Classics match. The match involved iconic players such as Sinjin Smith and Randy Stoklos, the legendary American pair who won the first ever FIVB-sanctioned beach volleyball event at Rio in 1987. Brazil's Guilherme Marques, who teamed with Rodrigo "Parra" Ferreira to win the 1997 FIVB Beach Volleyball World Championship in Los Angeles, also returned to the court.



#### Happy birthday Kerri Walsh Jennings!

Winning on your birthday must feel great! Happy birthday @kerrileewalsh! #Rio2016

@FIVBBeach



Winning an Olympic quarterfinal may have been enough of a birthday present for Kerri Walsh Jennings, but the crowd decided to make it all the more special with a raucous rendition of 'Happy birthday'. Kerri Walsh Jennings and April Ross were given a surprise boost when members of the USA's men's basketball team visited the Copacabana Beach Arena to lend their support. Kevin Durant, Draymond Green, DeAndre Jordan and Jimmy Butler enthusiastically lent their support to their compatriots from the stands.

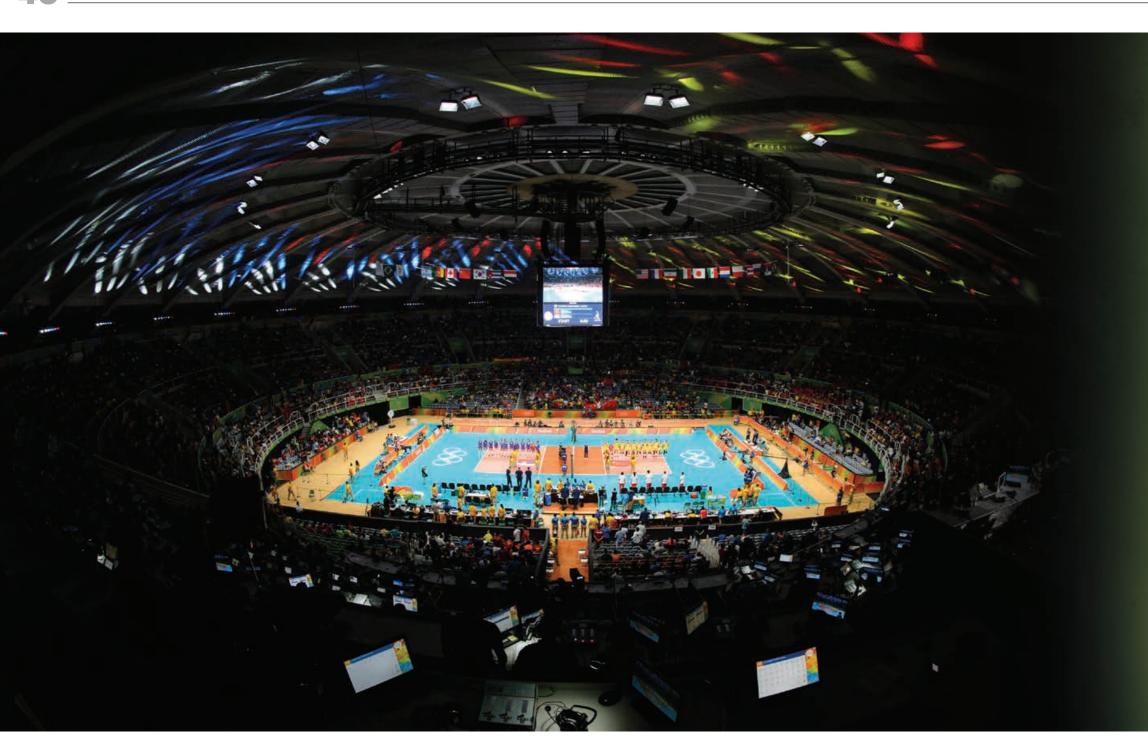
## The court painter

**Peter Spens had one** of the most enviable positions at the Beach Volleyball Arena for the Rio **2016 Olympic Games** beach volleyball tournament. Sitting courtside, almost within touching distance of the players and only a few small steps to the court, the court painter immortalized the scene with one of his pieces of art.



FIVB IN RIO 2016





The spiritual home of volleyball in Brazil, the Maracanãzinho was the natural choice to host the sport at Rio 2016, with its seating capacity of 12,000. The arena, which was renovated for the 2007 Pan **American Games, had** one training court refurbished and another temporary one added for Rio 2016.

With pulsating matches and an electric atmosphere, the volleyball competition at the Rio **2016 Olympic Games was** one of the **Games' great SUCCESS** stories.



















uán popular es el voleibol en

Rio Olympics 2016: China's women beat Serbia to win volleyball gold













volleyball player

**China defeated Serbia** 3-1 (19-25, 25-17, 25-22, 25-23) in front of a packed out Maracanãzinho to claim their third Olympic women's volleyball gold. Lang Ping's team progressed through to the knock out stages in fourth place, after winning two of their five pool matches, beating home favourites Brazil in the quarterfinals.





Silver medalists Serbia had a fantastic campaign and recorded their best ever result at an Olympic Games in their third appearance, after finishing fifth at Beijing 2008 and 11th at London 2012.

The women's gold medal game was officiated by female referees for the first time in Olympic Games history. Spain's Susana Rodriguez had the honour of being the first ever female referee at a volleyball Olympic final and she was assisted by Patricia 'Pati' Rolf of USA.



**USA took** a well-earned bronze beating the **Netherlands** 3-1 (25-23, 25-27, 25-22, 25-19) in an entertaining encounter for their fifth medal in Olympic history.





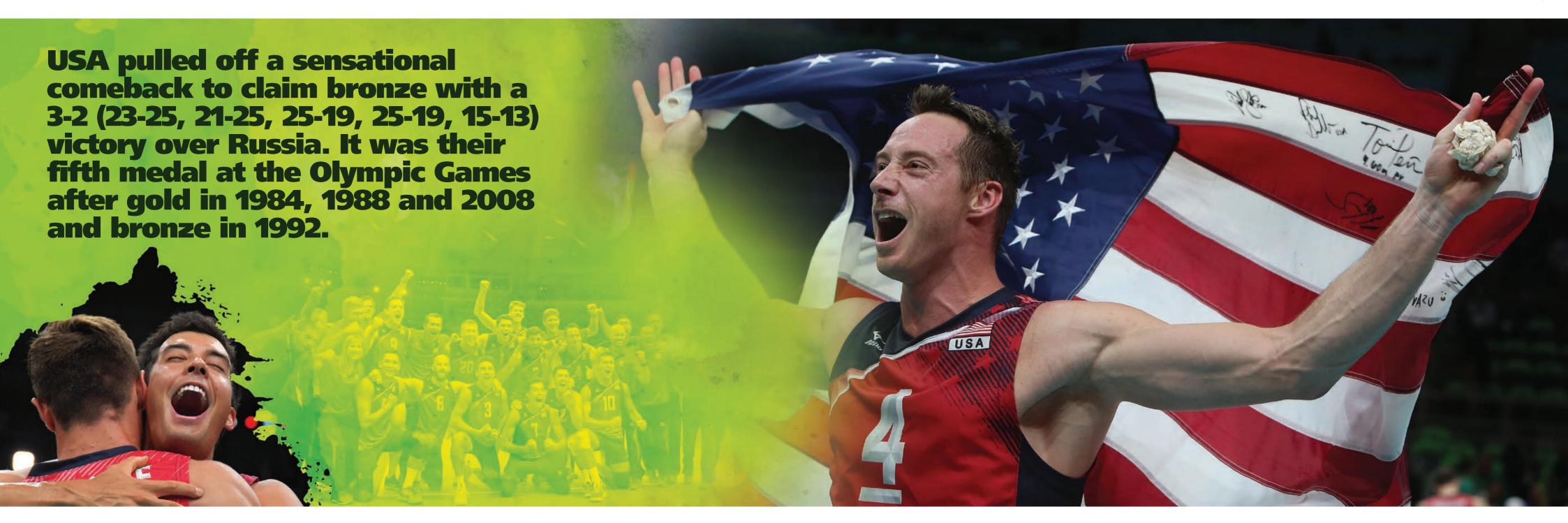
VOLLEYBALL 55



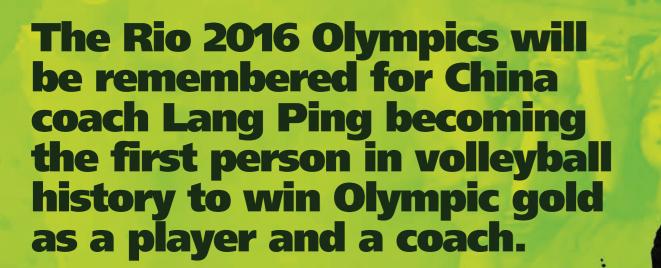
**Italy settled for an** impressive third silver medal, their sixth Olympic medal in total, following silver at **Atlanta 1996 and Athens 2004 and bronze at Los** Angeles 1984, Sydney 2000 and **London 2012.** 



FIVB IN RIO 2016







China's main TV channel **CCTV** recorded its highest ever TV ratings



The victory was a source of national pride and dominated the news in China.

#### Volleyball-related firms bask in team's golden glory

Volleyball: Lang inspires a return to the top

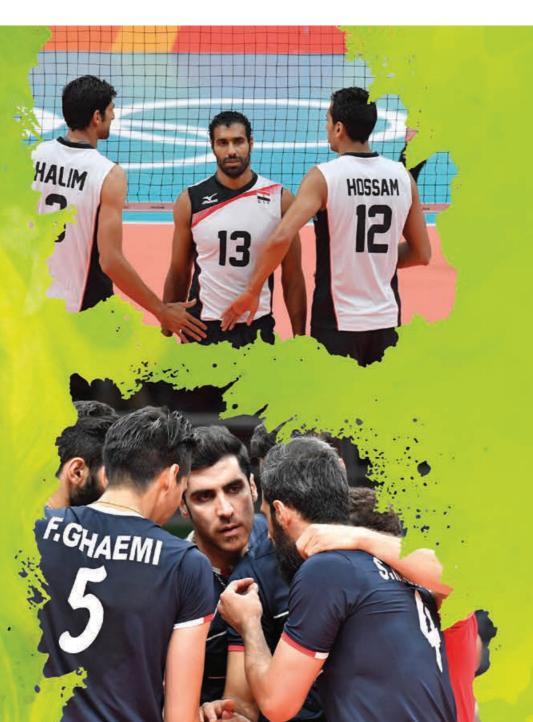




Egypt beat Cuba 3-0 (25-22, 25-15,25-22) on the second day of the men's volleyball pool matches.
It was the 16th time Egypt had taken to an
Olympic Games court and their first victory after 15 previous defeats.

**First time** participants Iran, put in a stellar performance.

World No. 7 Iran played consistently well to reach the quarterfinals of the tournament where they lost to Italy in three sets.



#### **Matteo Renzi**

**Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi took the opportunity to** meet with the Italian women's volleyball team and offer his support before their match against Serbia.

#### **Antonella** del Corre

After 283 international matches with the Italian national team, captain Antonella Del Corre retired her number 15 shirt and said an emotional farewell to the sport, her teammates and fans as Italy's Rio 2016 adventure came to an end with a straight set win over Puerto Rico at the end of pool play.



With a service clocking in at 127 kmph, he tied the Olympic serving record with Christian Savani (ITA) and Gyorgy Grozer (GER) who had both registered 127 kmph at London 2012.





With exhilarating action, the Maracanazinho attracted many sporting personalities who were in the crowd to cheer on their teams to victory.

Beach volleyball players take in the #Rio2016 action indoors at the Maracanazinho...

#### @FIV/RinRic

Lending his support to his volleyball counterparts was beach volleyball player Casey Patterson.



# Winner Rio 2016 Hospitality House in Legacy category\*





# THE SELECTION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY

In a pioneering move for an international sporting federation, the FIVB introduced the Volleyball House, its first ever dedicated base at an Olympic Games located on Copacabana Beach.

\*Award given by Rio de Janeiro Chamber of Commerce

#### The Rio Times

Rio Announces 2016 Olympic Hospitality House Winners

Hungary, Qatar and Switzerland were among the winners which also included the International Volleyball Federation (FIVB) and the U.S.'s NBA house.

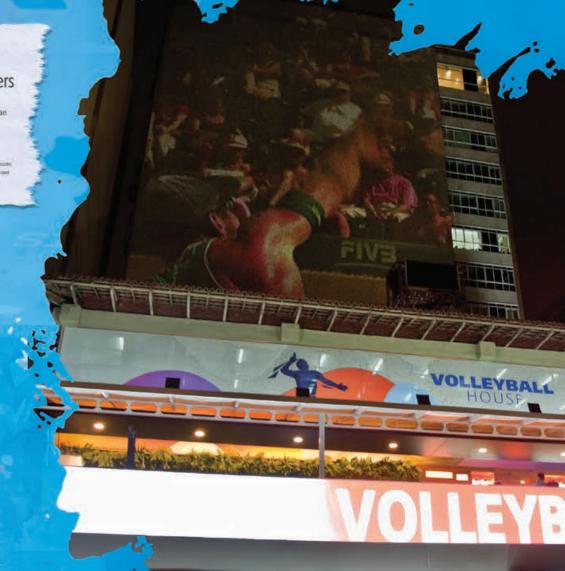
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Nic DE JAMERO, BRAZE. For Chammer of Communes WCRAI announced on Teacing the seminate of the Nic 2016 Owners Hospitalitis Mousey, agents, hungary and in the announce calegory, Date in the citizen calegory and Shutterland in the sociations calegory. Other workers stickulated that international Motivated Experience (FMM) and the U.S.3 NEAF-Cours, which was the opposite with to be therein brown

Key events at the Volleyball House attracted hundreds of sporting celebrities, media, broadcasters, partners and members of the volleyball family.

16
days of operation

meetings conducted



# THE VOLLEYBALL HOUSE OPENING

It is clear that the intention of the FIVB is to leave a legacy. It is not enough to show off our idols, our heroes. We have to leave something for the city. We are doing just that. JJ

Dr. Ary S. Graça F° FIVB President

I believe that the Volleyball House and the Olympics will open doors for many new athletes to emerge. ##

Helena Bomery Education Secretary of Rio de Janeiro





#### **VOLLEYBALL HOUSE ACTIVITIES**

#### **2017 BEACH VOLLEYBALL** WORLD **CHAMPIONSHIP**

They know how to stage an event and I expect it to be similar to the 2001 Beach **Volleyball World Championships in** Klagenfurt, maybe even more spectacular. It is a good choice for the **World Championships** and we're going to see a fantastic event. 33

#### **Jonas Reckermann**

2012 beach volleyball Olympic gold medalist on the announcement that Vienna will host the 2017 **Beach Volleyball World Championships** 

## LAUNCH OF THE ATHLETES' COMMISSION

Today we mark an important milestone for the global volleyball family and it is a privilege for me to formally introduce this outstanding group of athletes who make up our **Commission. We are 100** per cent committed to creating a platform for their voices to be heard and encourage them to take an active role in the decision making process. "

> Dr. Ary S. Graça F° **FIVB President**



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## LAUNCH OF MIREYA LUIS' BIOGRAPHY



For me as I was always quite small I was inspired to watch such a talented athlete like her play and give lessons in volleyball. She was an idol, an icon. She was an inspiration. It was amazing to follow the career of this great. "

Shelda Bede Former Brazilian beach volleyball Olympic silver medalist speaking of Cuban volleyball legend Mireya Luis

## ONE-ON-ONE WITH EGYPT'S BEACH VOLLEYBALL PLAYERS

I am really proud of my hijab and I've been wearing my hijab for the last 10 years. The FIVB gave us the right to play with a hijab. Wearing a hijab doesn't keep me away from anything I love to do and I think beach volleyball was one of the best things to happen to me. #

> **Doaa Elgobashy Egyptian beach volleyball** player during an interview with CNN at the Volleyball House



There were three legends of the sport who were the pillars of the development activities taking place in and around the volleyball House.



#### **Vladimir Grbic**

Serbia's Vladimir Grbic, with his multilingual abilities and magnetic personality, proved a hit with the public at the Copa Courts. With the national volleyball team of the Former Republic of Yugoslavia, he won a gold medal in the 2000 Summer Olympics and a bronze medal in 1996 at Atlanta. His impressive international resume also includes a silver medal at the 1998 World Championship and a gold medal in the 2001 European Championship.

#### Mauricio Lima

Two-time Olympic gold medallist Mauricio Lima, former setter for the Brazil national team, was a regular at the Volleyball House. With a career spanning nearly two decades, 575 caps, and over 100 event titles, Mauricio first helped the Brazil team to gold at the 1992 Olympics Games in Barcelona followed by another at the 2004 Olympics in Athens.



#### **◀ Randy Stoklos**

Five-time beach volleyball world champion, Randy Stoklos of the United States, was an invaluable asset to the Volleyball House with his experience as a player and mentor, not forgetting his larger-than-life personality that lent itself well to the Carioca ambience.

## AROUND AND ABOUT THE VOLLEYBALL HOUSE

Constructed to give visitors a unique experience of volleyball during the Olympic Games, the Volleyball House celebrated the past, present and future of the sport.

The visual displays which adorned the walls of the Volleyball House, provided information on the background of the Volleyball House, the FIVB as an organisation and the history of the sport.









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# DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES IN RIO

THE FIVB ORGANISED

HOURS
OF VOLLEYBALL
DEVELOPMENT
ACTIVITIES FOR
THE GENERAL
PUBLIC OVER

19 DAYS
IMPACTING
60,000
PEOPLE

### GIVING BACK TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

The opening of the two volleyball centres in the Formiga and Leme favelas, which featured Viva Vôlei activities, planted an important seed for long term social development.







I am very proud about this Viva Vôlei programme which is 13 states in Brazil and which has more than 200,000 children in poor communities participating. When we come to a community, the most important thing is to motivate, to stimulate the children to go to school and to study. It is wonderful to see the passion for volleyball among the children of the favela and I hope we can play a part in creating a future for them which harnesses the social and health benefits of sport. "

> Dr. Ary S. Graça F° FIVB President

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#### SHOWCASING VOLLEYBALL'S FAMILY **SPORT ENTERTAINMENT VALUE**

The FIVB's vision is to make volleyball the 'number one family sport entertainment in the world'. Rio 2016 showed the world that the sport is well on its way to making this vision a reality.



#### **Volleyball Your Way Festival**

The Volleyball Your Way festival held in Rio's Madureira park showed that a ball, a net and a lot of enthusiasm is all that is needed to bring together families and communities to enjoy what the sport has to offer.

Volleyball is a truly universal sport that can be played by everyone at every time everywhere and the Volleyball Your Way Festival was a fantastic celebration of this!

Dr. Ary S. Graça F° **FIVB President** 

#### CopaCourts: the activity of choice on Father's Day



I found about the Copa Courts when I was walking by and I saw the Volleyball House. My children are active in sports at school and I brought them here to see the champions. **33** 

> Miguel Ângelo 39, from São Paulo with his children Arthur, 7, and Catherine, 5



I really like volleyball and I am glad that Raul is excited to play it. As soon as we come back home, I will look for a club for Raul Vitor to coach volleyball. ##

> **Osvaldo Correia Neto** 35 years, businessman from São Paulo and his son Raul Vitor, 8



My daughter swims, but also enjoys volleyball. She has asked me to register her in a club since a friend started coaching volley. **33** 

> **Fernando Cardoso** 40, local businessman and former amateur volleyball player



My son José Carlos is on duty this weekend, so I am with my grandchild. I like all sports and I support Brazil. In this Olympics, the top teams are the Brazilian women. Football and volleyball are going to give us medals. ##

> Fernando Santana de Souza 53 a veteran beach football player and his grandson Kaique, 3

#### **Carnival fever on Copacabana**

Visitors got a chance to soak up the unique atmosphere of the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, as the bloco party injected some carnival magic in Copacabana. Music, dancing and beach volleyball proved a perfect recipe for a good time for all.



- We're interacting here with people from around the world. It is great!
- I joined in the bloco for a little while, it was really nice!
- Volleyball, beach volleyball, wonderful sunshine. Everything is beautiful!

What passersby had to say

## Lighting up Copacabana with the LED net

Regular exhibition matches at the Copa Courts drew impressive crowds, with onlookers getting a first hand view of the FIVB's LED net, which is revolutionising the presentation of volleyball events.



#### **VOLLEYBALL FOR ALL**

**Activities on the Copa Courts also** highlighted the versatility and inclusivity of the sport of volleyball and its broad social reach.

If I think the Copa Courts are a great idea. They have opened up the sport to different disciplines and activities such as bossaball and sitting volleyball. The FIVB is opening up the sport to new ideas as the world changes and I think it's great."

> **Filip Eyckmans** Creator of the **Bossaball concept**

#### **Sitting volleyball**

**Carlos Barbosa a Brazilian** Paralympic sitting volleyball player, put the able bodied players through their paces on the Copa Courts. Sitting volleyball featured on the **2016 Paralympic** programme.

#### **Bossaball**

The Bossaball concept was created using the Brazilian music scene, capoeira and footvolley as inspiration.

#### **Special Olympics**

**ff** I was introduced to this project 11 years ago. One thing I can say is that they play with their hearts. In any sport, you can see the passion in their eyes, and it's all they need. "

> **Vladimir Grbic Special Olympics'**





**Jackie Silva** Brazil's Special Olympics' Ambassador



#### **INSPIRING THE MASSES**

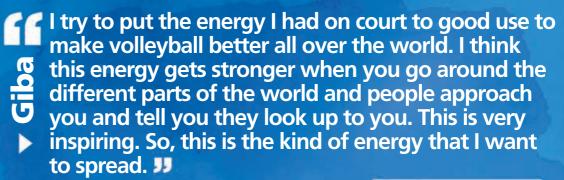
What better way to inspire a new generation of players than to have some of the sport's greatest and best on hand to offer instruction. The Copa Courts had no shortage of volleyball and beach volleyball stars keen to pass on their love of the sport to as many as possible.



Ary S. Graça F° **FIVB President** 

Since its inception in 1996 [at the Atlanta Olympics], beach volleyball has been the number one sold-out sport and going to a venue like this on a beach which is so iconic, to beaches around the world, I had to be back. I needed to be here, a part of it, the excitement, the enthusiasm. We play games all day long, the sessions go on until midnight, the temperatures are just absolutely perfect, and the excitement and the crowd are like no other.

> **Randy Stoklos** Five time beach volleyball world champion



Former outside hitter with the **Brazilian national volleyball team** 



#### Mauricio Lima 🔻

**Two-time Olympic gold** medallist with the Brazil national volleyball team.



#### **Julius Brink Vladimir Grbic**

Julius Brink (left) - London 2012 Olympic beach volleyball gold medalist. Vladimir Grbic (right) -Volleyball Olympic gold medalist from Serbia and Secretary of the FIVB Athlete's Commission.





#### Chen Xue (CHN) ▼

2013 beach volleyball world champion and FIVB Athlete Commission member.



#### Angie Akers (USA) ▼

Coach for the Netherlands beach team and retired pro-beach volleyball player.

10-year-old Camila Leite refused to let coach Angie Akers change sides when some participants had to pull out of an impromptu match on the beach. In order to ensure that she stayed put, little Camila – who plays in the CBV's project VivaVôlei at Rio das Pedras in Rio – presented Akers with a shell.

"I really liked her, and that's why I told her not to go to the other side and gave her a shell," said the young Camila "It was so cute!" said Akers.





There's a really good energy here. It's important for kids to do sports, no matter what they do, as long as they just move and know their own body.

Marleen Van Iersel Beach volleyball European champion from the Netherlands



It's great to give this opportunity to those kids. It's awesome to promote connection, interaction and put a smile on their faces.

Bo Soderberg Australian beach volleyball player and coach



When I was their age, I didn't even play beach volleyball. I was skiing and playing football. They have the whole world in front of them and they can become as good as they want to be.

Bjorn Maaseide Former beach volleyball World Tour Champion

#### **FIVB**

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