



# 2018 AVP PRO BEACH VOLLEYBALL TOUR – Event #4 San Francisco, California • July 5 – 8, 2018

**ABOUT THE TOURNAMENT** – The Bay Bridge in San Francisco serves as the backdrop for an AVP tournament for the third straight year. This tournament not only kicks off a string of three straight events in California, but at the same time will mark the close of the first half of the 2018 season. This will be the final tournament this year with the format of 16-team double elimination. The eight events on the slate this year will be held in six different states (three events in California, Texas, New York, Washington, Illinois and Hawai'i). The locations include the three most populous cities in the U.S. (New York, Los Angeles and Chicago) and four of the five most populous states. The schedule mirrors last season's with the exception of Huntington Beach (which this year was an FIVB event put on by the AVP) and now the addition of Honolulu. The dates are the same weekends as last year's except for Hermosa Beach, which this season is one week later. This marks the 34th consecutive season the AVP has held competitions. Total prize money for this tournament will be \$200,000, with equal payouts for men and women, and the season payout totals \$1,308,000 plus Hawai'i (prize money TBD).

- The main draw will be a 16-team, double elimination format. Twelve teams from each gender are granted entry directly into the main draw from having sufficient points (from the best four events points totals from their last five AVP and AVPNext tournaments). The remaining four teams in each gender must earn a spot via the qualifier tournament, a single elimination event held at two sites. The women will play at Stanford University Courts in Stanford, while the men will play at Pier 30/32 at the Embarcadero on Thursday, July 5. There are a total of 56 men's teams and 50 women's teams in the field. The qualifier will consist of 40 matches for the men and 34 for the women, while the main draw features 29 matches for each gender. The main draw begins on Friday, July 6 and concludes on Sunday, July 8, and will be played on four courts at Pier 30/32 at the Embarcadero. General admission is free throughout and premium ticket packages are available at [avp.com](http://avp.com) or onsite. The championship matches will be around 1:30 pm PT and 3:00 pm PT.

- NBC Sports Network will broadcast a championship match on a tape-delayed basis Tuesday (4:00-5:30 pm PT). Chris Marlowe (play by play) and Kevin Wong (color commentary) will handle the announcing duties, with Dain Blanton contributing sideline reports. Live streaming via Amazon Prime takes place Friday through Sunday. Kevin Barnett, Camryn Irwin and Kelli Tennant will combine to handle the announcing duties for Amazon Prime.

**GOLD SERIES** – The Gold Series is a segment of the year consisting of three events – New York City, Manhattan Beach and Chicago. These three events carry more importance than the other tournaments in as much as the prize money and points are both elevated. What that means is that a second place finish in New York City is worth more in seeding points than a win in San Francisco.

## 2018 AVP Pro Beach Volleyball Tour Schedule

Event Dates	Location	Tournament Format	Prize \$ - TV
<b>May 18 - 21</b>	<b>Austin, Texas</b>	16-team double elimination	\$150,000 – NBCSN (delayed)
	<i>Top seeds Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena and Alix Klineman / April Ross win season opener</i>		
<b>June 7 - 10</b>	<b>New York City, New York</b>	16-team double elimination	\$200,000 – NBC (live)
	<i>Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena remain perfect while Sara Hughes / Summer Ross win in their first outing</i>		
<b>June 21 - 24</b>	<b>Seattle, Washington</b>	16-team double elimination	\$150,000 – NBCSN (delayed)
	<i>Taylor Crabb / Jake Gibb end top seeds' reign while Emily Day / Betsi Flint win in thrilling three-set final</i>		
<b>July 5 - 8</b>	<b>San Francisco, California</b>	16-team double elimination	\$150,000 – NBCSN (delayed)
	<i>The midpoint event of the season is the last one with a small draw and cap on number of teams</i>		
<b>July 26 - 29</b>	<b>Hermosa Beach, California</b>	24-team double elimination	\$158,000 – NBCSN (delayed)
	<i>First of Southern Cal events offers bigger draw for first time during 2018 season</i>		
<b>August 16 - 19</b>	<b>Manhattan Beach, California</b>	32-team double elimination	\$250,000 – NBC (live)
	<i>Second Gold Series event and second live NBC show features the biggest field on the Tour this season</i>		
<b>Aug 30 – Sep 2</b>	<b>Chicago, Illinois</b>	24-team double elimination	\$250,000 – NBC (live)
	<i>Championships ties for biggest purse in most frequent beach volleyball locale outside of California</i>		
<b>Sep 14 – 16</b>	<b>Honolulu, Hawai'i</b>	Invitational	\$TBD – NBCSN (delayed)
	<i>Just-announced event with format still to be determined, but likely based on performance in Gold Series</i>		

**SAN FRANCISCO HISTORY** – This will mark the 12th time the AVP has had a men's event in San Francisco, with all coming in three-year bunches (1986-88, 1994-96, 2007-09 and now 2016-18), while the women have played here six times prior (1994, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2016 and 2017). In all, there have been 10 different men's teams win in the 11 years here. On the women's side there have been 16 different players in the six title matches in San Francisco, with eight of them being Olympians. Here's a look at the AVP events held in San Francisco:

**MEN – AVP events**

Year	1st	2nd	3rd	3rd / 4th
1986	Mike Dodd / Tim Hovland	Sinjin Smith / Randy Stoklos	John Hanley / Leif Hanson	Dan Vrebalovich / Tim Walmer
1987	John Hanley / Jon Stevenson	Scott Ayakutubby / Brent Frohoff	Sinjin Smith / Randy Stoklos	Mike Dodd / Tim Hovland
1988	Sinjin Smith / Randy Stoklos	Mike Dodd / Tim Hovland	Brent Frohoff / Andrew Smith	Pat Powers / Jon Stevenson
1994	Adam Johnson / Randy Stoklos	Troy Tanner / Wes Welch	Karch Kiraly / Kent Steffes	Mike Dodd / Mike Whitmarsh
1995	Mike Dodd / Mike Whitmarsh	Scott Ayakutubby / Karch Kiraly	Bill Boullianne / Brian Lewis	Adam Johnson / Jose Loiola
1996	Mike Dodd / Mike Whitmarsh	Karch Kiraly / Kent Steffes	Scott Ayakutubby / Brian Lewis	Kevin Martin / David Swatik
2007	Matt Fuerbringer / Casey Jennings	Jake Gibb / Sean Rosenthal	Mike Lambert / Stein Metzger	Phil Dalhausser / Todd Rogers
2008	Jake Gibb / Sean Rosenthal	Phil Dalhausser / Todd Rogers	Stein Metzger / Mark Williams	[3rd] John Hyden / Brad Keenan
2009	Phil Dalhausser / Todd Rogers	John Hyden / Sean Scott	Jake Gibb / Sean Rosenthal	[3rd] Brad Keenan / Nick Lucena
2016	Jake Gibb / Casey Patterson	Taylor Crabb / Trevor Crabb	Ty Loomis / Marty Lorenz	[3rd] John Mayer / Stafford Slick
2017	Ty Loomis / Maddison McKibbin	Billy Allen / Stafford Slick	Reid Priddy / Ricardo Santos	[3rd] Ed Ratledge / Eric Zaun

**WOMEN – AVP events**

Year	1st	2nd	3rd	3rd / 4th
1994	Cammy Ciarelli / Holly McPeak	Nancy Reno / Angela Rock	Linda Chisholm / Linda Hanley	Karrie Poppinga / Valinda Roche
2007	Misty May-Treanor / Kerri Walsh	Nicole Branagh / Elaine Youngs	Dianne DeNecochea/Tammy Leibl	Angie Akers / Brooke Hanson
2008	Misty May-Treanor / Kerri Walsh	Nicole Branagh / Elaine Youngs	Annett Davis / Jenny Johnson Jordan	[3rd] Jennifer Kessy / April Ross
2009	Jennifer Kessy / April Ross	Nicole Branagh / Elaine Youngs	Annett Davis / Jenny Johnson Jordan	[3rd] Rachel Scott / Kerri Jennings
2016	April Ross / Kerri Walsh Jennings	Kelly Claes / Sara Hughes	Lane Carico / Summer Ross	[3rd] Emily Day / Brittany Hochevar
2017	Betsi Flint / Kelley Larsen	Lane Carico / Alix Klineman	Angela Bensed / Geena Urango	[3rd] Jennifer Fopma / Kelly Reeves

**2017 SAN FRANCISCO RECAP** – In the final 16-team event of the 2017 season, both genders saw four of the top five seeds advance to the semifinals. But it was a chance for some players to shine in the spotlight for the first time as Maddison McKibbin and Alix Klineman both advanced to their first ever AVP title matches.

- For the third consecutive event, a men's player won for the first time ever. Maddison McKibbin played in his first ever AVP title match and came away with the trophy. He did so alongside Ty Loomis, who eight years ago also won in his first AVP championship match appearance (in Brooklyn in 2009), and that was also his last victory. Loomis and McKibbin won against Billy Allen and Stafford Slick, who had reached the title match for the third straight time.

- Fifth event of the year and fifth different winner for the women. Top-seeded Betsi Flint and Kelley Larsen avenged a Saturday loss to Lane Carico / Alix Klineman, winning handily in the championship. Flint and Larsen, who have advanced to the title match all five times they have reached the semifinals, collected their first AVP victory since September 2015, when they became the youngest team to win.

#5 Ty Loomis / Maddison McKibbin def. #1 Billy Allen / Stafford Slick 24-22, 21-19 (1:03)

#1 Betsi Flint / Kelley Larsen def. #5 Lane Carico / Alix Klineman 21-13, 21-8 (:39)

**SIX OF ONE, HALF DOZEN OF ANOTHER** – Of the 12 women's teams seeded directly into the main draw in San Francisco, just six of them were playing as teams seeded directly into the main draw in Seattle two weeks ago. Emily Day and Betsi Flint are the only team in the top six seeds this week that was playing in Seattle, while five of teams seeded between seven and 12 were competing in Seattle (all except Ali McColloch and Kendra VanZwieten, who each played with different partners two weeks ago).

**FAMILIAR FACES IN FINALS** – Beginning with the New York City tournament in 2016, there have been 15 AVP championship matches held. Out of those 15 events, seven have been won by Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena, who have also finished second twice in that span. Jake Gibb has played in six of the finals (5-1 record in those), Taylor Crabb has also played for the title six times (3-3), and Trevor Crabb has played in five finals (0-5). Since that New York event in June 2016, there have only been two tournaments which featured a championship match that did not include Dalhausser, Lucena, Gibb, or one of the Crabb brothers (Manhattan Beach 2016 and San Francisco 2017).

- On the women's side, there is a current string of 17 tournaments with at least one of four players appearing in the title match; April Ross, Emily Day, Summer Ross and Betsi Flint. Beginning with the Huntington Beach 2016 event (the second of that season), not only have one of the aforementioned four players been in the finals, but at least one has won 15 times, with the two exceptions being in Chicago in both 2016 and 2017. In that span April Ross is 6-1 in finals, Day is 5-0, Summer Ross is 3-4, and Flint is 2-3.

**SEEDINGS SUMMARY** – With no men's team here even having advanced to an AVP championship match before, the top four seeds have combined for four third-place finishes this season. Top-seeded Billy Allen and Ryan Doherty have been fairly consistent this season, winning their first two matches each event but losing the third. Their finishes have been fifth, third, and fifth. Jeremy Casebeer and Reid Priddy are the second seeds, and have an impressive 9-2 match mark against the other teams in the field. However, they are coming back from an FIVB event in Portugal earlier this week. Third-seeded Trevor Crabb and John Mayer have been playing a lot of volleyball the last two months. Starting May 1, the duo has played five FIVB events (winning twice) and this will mark the third AVP tournament in that span. Casey Patterson and Stafford Slick, who are seeded fourth, have one of the three individuals who has previously won in San Francisco and is playing this weekend (Patterson, who won in 2016 with Jake Gibb... the others are Sean Rosenthal and Maddison McKibbin). Four of the duo's six losses this season have come to teams seeded fourth or better.

- The top women's seeds are Emily Day and Betsi Flint, who won in Seattle in what was just their second AVP event together. After their win in Seattle they played in a qualifier in Warsaw last weekend, advancing to the main draw. Flint is the defending San Francisco champion, having won here last year with Kelley Larsen. Seeded second is Alix Klineman and April Ross, who won in their first AVP event together in Austin. Last event in Seattle Klineman rested her shoulder while Ross, who leads the pack here with 30 AVP victories, advanced to the title match with new partner Caitlin Ledoux. Ross has fond memories of San Francisco, having won her last two competitions here. In 2009 she and Jennifer Kessy won (Ross' third AVP title ever), then in 2016 she stood atop the podium with Kerri Walsh Jennings (the last AVP victory Walsh Jennings had). So Ross enters this year's competition with a 10-match winning streak in San Francisco. Kelley Larsen and Emily Stockman are seeded third, and are playing for the second time together on the AVP Tour (finished fifth in New York). Still, the duo does have experience together as since the middle of April they have played five FIVB tournaments in China, the U.S., Switzerland, Brazil, and Czech Republic. Caitlin Ledoux and Geena Urango are teaming up for the second time on the AVP Tour, and have earned the number four seed. The only other time they were partners on the AVP was in Cincinnati in 2012, which was the first AVP main draw for both players. Much has changed since then, as Ledoux is coming off her career best, a second place in Seattle, and Urango has been in nine semifinals, including in San Francisco last year.

**SAN FRANCISCO SAND BITS** – Of the 112 men's players competing this weekend, 73 call California home. A total of 19 different states plus Puerto Rico are represented. There are four teenagers competing, including 18-year olds Kacey Losik and Garrett Peterson, and 19-year olds Evan Murray and Tristan Vassberg. Meanwhile nine players are 40 or older, led by David Smith at 46 years old, Art Barron and Chris Luers (both 43). Of the heights known, David Vander Meer is the shortest at 5'9" while at the other end of the spectrum are 7'1" Ryan Doherty, and seven players who are 6'8." Sean Rosenthal is playing in his 267th pro beach tournament, followed by Adam Roberts (198th), while eight players are playing their first ever pro beach event. There are two players competing in San Francisco which have won at least five AVP titles entering this weekend; Casey Patterson (14) and Sean Rosenthal (12). Out of 56 partnerships, 23 are competing together for the very first time and only three have played together 11 or more times before San Francisco (Maddison and Riley McKibbin 17 previous events), Branden Clemens / Ben Vaught (11) and Francisco Quesada-Paneque / Troy Schlicker (11). There are no men's teams here which have previously won an AVP event or have even previously played in an AVP title match.

- There are 100 women playing this weekend, and 73 currently live in California. The players come from 12 different states plus Poland, including three states which are unique from the men (meaning a total of 22 states plus Puerto Rico and Poland are represented). The field includes 12 teenagers with the five youngest being 16-year olds Malina Baker and Ally Polverari, and 17-year old twins Audrey and Nicole Nourse, and Jordan Polo. On the flip side, Michelle Boydston and Josie Lehman (both 40) are the oldest. Of the heights known, Katie Lindstrom measures 5'4" and three others are 5'5". At the other end of the spectrum, Hayley Spelman is 6'6" while Alix Klineman is 6'5". There are nine players making their pro beach volleyball debut while the most experienced is April Ross (230th tournament) followed by Lauren Fendrick (218th), Priscilla Piantadosi-Lima (140th) and Emily Day (138th). April Ross has tallied 30 AVP victories, the most of any player here, followed by Emily Day (seven). The women feature 22 tandems (out of 50 total) playing alongside each other for the first time and just two having played together nine or more times (Aurora Davis / Bree Scarbrough 20 and Karissa Cook / Katie Spieler 12). There are two teams competing here which have won an AVP title as partners previously; Alix Klineman / April Ross (in Austin 2018) and Emily Day / Betsi Flint (in Seattle 2018).

**BIRTHDAY WISHES** – Players celebrating birthdays during the event include Dave McKenzie (turns 39 on Thursday) and Michelle Boydston (turns 41 on Sunday).

**WHAT'S UP NEXT** – The AVP has two weekends off then continues its three consecutive tournaments in California. First up will be a 24-team tournament that will take place in Hermosa Beach July 26-29, then the 32-team Manhattan Beach Open from August 16-19.

**2018 QUALIFIER LIST** – Here's a look at the teams who have qualified this season (qualification tournament seed) and how they finished in the main draw:

AUSTIN - Men

Maddison McKibbin / Riley McKibbin (Q1) – 13th place  
 Travis Mewhirther / Raffe Paulis (Q10) – 13th place  
 Troy Field / David Vander Meer (Q11) – 9th place  
 Bruno Amorim / Chris Luers (Q12) – 13th place  
*Mewhirther advances to his first ever AVP main draw*

NEW YORK CITY - Men

Ty Loomis / Piotr Marciniak (Q1) – 13th place  
 Maddison McKibbin / Riley McKibbin (Q2) – 13th place  
 Mark Burik / Iam Satterfield (Q4) – 13th place  
 Kyle Friend / Myles Muagututia (Q6) – 9th place  
*McKibbin brothers advance for 2nd straight tournament*

SEATTLE - Men

Maddison McKibbin / Riley McKibbin (Q1) – 9th place  
 Marty Lorenz / Raffe Paulis (Q4) – 13th place  
 Eric Beranek / Michael Brunsting (Q6) – 13th place  
 Michael Boag / Skylar del Sol (Q18) – 13th place  
*McKibbin brothers improve to 10-0 in qualifier matches*

AUSTIN - Women

Sarah Day / Nicolette Martin (Q1) – 5th place  
 Janelle Allen / Kerri Schuh (Q5) – 7th place  
 Priscilla Piantadosi-Lima / Jessica Sykora (Q6) – 13th place  
 Falyn Fonoimoana / Alexa Strange (Q15) – 13th place  
*Fonoimoana advances to her first ever AVP main draw*

NEW YORK CITY - Women

Aurora Davis / Bree Scarbrough (Q2) – 9th place  
 Lara Dykstra / Sheila Shaw (Q3) – 13th place  
 Christina Matthews / Brittany Tiegs (Q5) – 13th place  
 Delaney Knudsen / Jessica Sykora (Q9) – 13th place  
*Knudsen / Sykora eliminate Humana-Parades / Pavan*

SEATTLE - Women

Nicolette Martin / Allie Wheeler (Q1) – 5th place  
 Delaney Knudsen / Jessica Sykora (Q5) – 9th place  
 Falyn Fonoimoana / Alexa Strange (Q6) – 13th place  
 Cassie House / Molly Turner (Q7) – 13th place  
*Martin / Wheeler lose 15-13 in match to reach semis*

**AUSTIN ANALYSIS** – The Austin championship matches had some similarities. Both featured number one seeds against teams playing together for the first time. For the first time since San Francisco in 2016, both the men's and women's top-seeded teams won on the same weekend.

- In Austin in 2005 Phil Dalhausser and Nick Lucena won their first title together, then repeated as champs in 2017 and 2018 by sweeping all five opponents both years. As the number one seeds, this marked the first time a top-seeded men's team won an AVP title since Dalhausser and Lucena did it last year in Austin. Across the net was a partnership making their debut, Tim Bomgren and Taylor Crabb. Bomgren set a new career best by reaching the finals while Crabb was playing in his sixth AVP final.

- Top seeds Alix Klineman and April Ross were playing together for the first time on the AVP Tour, although they had competed in four FIVB events previously. Ross won in Austin in 2017 with Whitney Pavlik, and this year she won again to collect her 30th career AVP title as Klineman grabbed her first AVP victory. Their foes, Lauren Fendrick and Sara Sponcil, were not only playing together for the first time ever, but this was Sponcil's second AVP event (her first was in 2013 when she was just 16 years old). Fendrick was the oldest player in the main draw while Sponcil was the youngest. After the match point freeze, there were 31 serves, and the second set saw seven set points for Fendrick / Sponcil and seven match points for Klineman / Ross.

*#1 Alix Klineman / April Ross def. #7 Lauren Fendrick / Sarah Sponcil 24-22, 25-23 (1:10)*

*#1 Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena def. #6 Tim Bomgren / Taylor Crabb 21-14, 21-14 (:40)*

**NEW YORK CITY IN A NUTSHELL** – With the recent announcement of the new event in Hawai'i and its dependence on performance in the three-event Gold Series, the New York City tournament carried even more prestige. And in the brightest spotlight the top teams shined the brightest. Both the men's and women's teams seeded first in the tournament were undefeated in winning the first of the three Gold Series tournaments.

- Phil Dalhausser and Nick Lucena continued their dominant performance in the young season. Although dropping their first two sets of the year, the duo improved its match record to 10-0 in 2018. Across the net was one familiar foe – Taylor Crabb. This marked the second straight event that Crabb had played in the championship match, having done so in the season opener with his substitute partner Tim Bomgren. But in New York City Jake Gibb had returned from a broken pinky toe and the 2017 New York City champs were back together. Dalhausser / Lucena proved to be too much though, and ended Gibb's impressive 14-match winning streak in New York (as he had also won the 2015 title with Casey Patterson).

- For the second straight event, one of the teams in the women's championship match was playing together for the first time on the AVP Tour. This tournament, though, the inaugural partnership resulted in a title. Sara Hughes and Summer Ross joined forces and in five matches never so much as faced a set point. Seeded No. 1, Hughes and Ross defeated three teams seeded fifth or better, including defeating Nicole Branagh / Brandie Wilkerson twice. Ross, who had finished second in New York each of the past two years, was able to win the title in her third attempt.

*#1 Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena def. #3 Taylor Crabb / Jake Gibb 21-16, 21-17 (:48)*

*#1 Sara Hughes / Summer Ross def. #5 Nicole Branagh / Brandie Wilkerson 21-14, 21-19 (:52)*

**SEATTLE SYNOPSIS** – For the second straight event, the same men’s teams competed in the title matches but it did end a streak of first-time winners as in the previous three years a men’s player had won his first ever AVP title in Seattle. The women, meanwhile had one streak continue and one come to a halt. The one that continued was that a first-time partnership (at least on the AVP Tour) had now reached the title match for the third straight event. Coming to an end, however, was an eight-event long streak in which the women’s championship match was decided in a sweep.

- Phil Dalhausser and Nick Lucena entered the Seattle finals with a perfect 14-0 match record to start the 2018 season, and were facing a rematch from the New York championship match – Taylor Crabb and Jake Gibb. This marked the first time two teams had played each other for an AVP title in consecutive tournaments since late 2014 (when Jake Gibb / Casey Patterson defeated Ryan Doherty / Nick Lucena in both Cincinnati and Atlantic City). Crabb and Gibb won in a sweep, ending the early season reign by Dalhausser and Lucena.

- Parity continues to be the story on the women’s side as not only was there a third different team winning the AVP championship, but six different teams have competed in the finals this year. Second-seeded Emily Day / Betsi Flint were able to perform a difficult task – defeat the same team twice in as many days. Caitlin Ledoux / April Ross, who were playing together for the first time, made it about as difficult as possible in producing one of the most thrilling finals in history. After the two teams split the first two sets by identical 21-19 scores, the third set was tight the whole way, and each team had six match points as there were 29 serves since the match point freeze.

*#2 Emily Day / Betsi Flint def. #3 Caitlin Ledoux / April Ross 19-21, 21-19, 18-16 (1:17)*

*#3 Taylor Crabb / Jake Gibb def. #1 Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena 21-16, 21-19 (:51)*

**NEW NUMBER ONES** – Since the start of the 2017 season, there have been 12 AVP tournaments (including San Francisco). In that span, no women’s team has been seeded first in consecutive events. With this week’s top-seeded team of Emily Day / Betsi Flint, there have now been eight different teams with the top billing in those 12 events, as well as 11 different individuals. Now, two players stand above the rest in number of times holding the top seed, Emily Day, this week’s number one seed, and Brittany Hochevar, both of whom have been the top seed for five times since the start of 2017.

**IT’S ALL RELATIVE** – There are five married couples who are competing this weekend, and all five of the women are in the main draw while three of the men are. The main draw couples include Billy and Janelle Allen, Piotr and Karolina Marciniak, and Chaim Schalk and Lane Carico. The other two couples both have the husband playing in the qualifier. Those couples are Kevin and Ali McColloch, and Steve and Kendra Van Zwieten.

There are five sets of siblings playing in San Francisco, and three sets are competing as teammates. Maddison and Riley McKibbin are teammates and seeded 10th in the main draw. Charles and Clark Porter are in the qualifier and 17-year old twin sisters Audrey and Nicole are also in the qualifier and playing in their second AVP event ever. Chase Budinger is in the main draw while his older brother Duncan is in the qualifier. Delaney Knudsen and her younger sister Lindsey Knudsen are both in the qualifier, but on separate teams.

**INTERNATIONAL UPDATE** –This weekend there is a four-star event in Espinho, Portugal. Three men’s teams from the U.S. are in the main draw; Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena, Theo Brunner / John Hyden, and Taylor Crabb / Jake Gibb. Jeremy Casebeer and Reid Priddy have to battle it out in the country quota, then if they win that they will play in the qualifier. On the women’s side, Sara Hughes / Summer Ross and Kelly Claes / Brittany Hochevar are both already in the main draw, while Amanda Dowdy / Irene Pollock are in the qualifier.

- Here is a look at medals collected this season on the FIVB Tour by AVP players:

Summer Ross / Brooke Sweat	Bronze	Quinzhou, China	three star	October 15
Betsi Flint / Kelley Larsen	Bronze	Aalsmeer, Netherlands	one star	October 29
Alix Klineman / April Ross	Gold	The Hague, Netherlands	four star	January 7
Avery Drost / Chase Frishman	Gold	Shepparton, Australia	one star	February 4
Amanda Dowdy / Irene Pollock	Gold	Shepparton, Australia	one star	February 4
Caitlin Ledoux / Jace Pardon	Silver	Shepparton, Australia	one star	February 4
Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena	Gold	Fort Lauderdale, U.S.	four star	March 4
Summer Ross / Brooke Sweat	Bronze	Fort Lauderdale, U.S.	four star	March 4
Caitlin Ledoux / Emily Stockman	Gold	Satun, Thailand	one star	April 11
Melissa Humana-Parades / Sarah Pavan	Gold	Xiamen, China	four star	April 22
Kelly Claes / Brittany Hochevar	Silver	Xiamen, China	four star	April 22
Trevor Crabb / John Mayer	Gold	Lucerne, Switzerland	three star	May 13
Kelley Larsen / Emily Stockman	Bronze	Lucerne, Switzerland	three star	May 13
Aurora Davis / Bree Scarbrough	Gold	Bangkok, Thailand	one star	May 13
Brandie Wilkerson / (Heather Bansley)	Bronze	Itapema, Brazil	four star	May 20
Trevor Crabb / John Mayer	Gold	Jinjang, China	two star	June 3
Amanda Dowdy / Irene Pollock	Bronze	Nanjing, China	two star	June 17
Brandie Wilkerson / (Heather Bansley)	Silver	Ostrava, Czech Republic	four star	June 24
Brandie Wilkerson / (Heather Bansley)	Gold	Warsaw, Poland	four star	July 1

**SEEDINGS SNIPPETS** – Here are snippets on the teams which are seeded directly into the main draw in San Francisco:  
MEN

- #1 Billy Allen / Ryan Doherty – 4th AVP event as partners (best of 3rd in New York)... Allen was in title match in San Francisco with Stafford Slick in 2017... this marks the fourth time ever that Doherty has been seeded No. 1
- #2 Jeremy Casebeer / Reid Priddy – 4th AVP event together (best of 3rd in Austin and Seattle)... Casebeer has been in semifinals in 5 of his last 10 AVP events... Priddy has been in semifinals in 4 of last 7 AVP events
- #3 Trevor Crabb / John Mayer – 3rd AVP event together (best of 5th in Austin)... Crabb was second in San Francisco in 2016 in his only appearance here (with brother Trevor)... Mayer been to semifinals just once in last six AVP events
- #4 Casey Patterson / Stafford Slick – 4th AVP event together (best of 3rd in Austin)... Patterson won in San Francisco in 2016 (with Jake Gibb)... Slick has been to semifinals here each of last two years (3rd in 2016 and 2nd in 2017)
- #5 Chase Budinger / Sean Rosenthal – 4th AVP event together (best of 5th in New York)... Budinger's 4th AVP event ever, and his brother Duncan is in qualifier... Rosenthal won in San Francisco in 2008 with Jake Gibb
- #6 Ed Ratledge / Roberto Rodriguez – 3rd event as partners (9th both times)... Ratledge's only career semifinal came in San Francisco in 2017... this is the highest that Rodriguez has ever been seeded in his AVP career
- #7 Tim Bomgren / Chaim Schalk – 2nd event as partners (9th in Seattle)... Bomgren has finished 9th in San Francisco each of the last two years... Schalk has finished 9th in four straight AVP tournaments
- #8 Piotr Marciniak / Eric Zaun – 2nd event as partners (7th in Seattle)... Marciniak has never lost an AVP main draw match to team with lower seed than him... Zaun's 4th event this year with 3rd different partner
- #9 Avery Drost / Chase Frishman – 8th AVP event together (best of 3rd)... duo began as a partnership in San Francisco in 2017, finishing 5th (second best finish as partners)
- #10 Maddison McKibbin / Riley Mckibbin – 15th AVP event together (best of 9th four times)... Maddison got his only AVP win last year in San Francisco (with Ty Loomis)... Riley has only played two AVP events with different partner
- #11 Marty Lorenz / Raffe Paulis – 4th AVP event together (twice in 2015, then placed 13th in Seattle 2018)... Lorenz tied his career best with a 3rd in San Francisco 2016... just 2nd time Paulis seeded directly into main draw in his career
- #12 Mark Burik / Ian Satterfield – 3rd AVP event together (best of 13th)... Burik's 7th in San Francisco last year was his best in his last 12 events... Satterfield tied a career high with his 13th in last year's San Francisco event

WOMEN

- #1 Emily Day / Betsi Flint – 3rd AVP event together (7th in New York, won in Seattle)... Day has won 5 of her last 10 AVP events... Flint won last year in San Francisco (with Kelley Larsen), the last time she was seeded No. 1
- #2 Alix Klineman / April Ross – 3rd AVP event together (won in Austin, 3rd in New York)... Stanford grad Klineman played her first AVP title match here in 2017 (with Lane Carico)... Ross has won last 2 times playing here (2009, 2016)
- #3 Kelley Larsen / Emily Stockman – 2nd AVP event together (5th in New York)... Larsen won in San Francisco last year (with Betsi Flint)... Stockman went 0-2, finishing 13th, in her only other appearance here (in 2015)
- #4 Caitlin Ledoux / Geena Urango – 2nd AVP event together (17th in Cincinnati 2012)... Ledoux coming off her career best, 2nd in Seattle... Urango had 9 semifinals in previous three seasons but a 7th and two 13ths this year
- #5 Lane Carico / Karolina Marciniak – 3rd AVP event together (3rd in Austin, 9th in New York)... Carico finished 3rd and 2nd last two years in San Francisco (both with different partners)... Marciniak had AVP career best in Austin (3rd)
- #6 Lauren Fendrick / Sarah Sponcil – 2nd AVP event together (2nd in Austin)... Fendrick has been in semifinals in 20 of her 24 AVP events since start of 2013... this is just 3rd AVP event ever for Sponcil
- #7 Karissa Cook / Katie Spieler – 11th AVP event together... placed 3rd in Austin to set a career best for both players... duo lost in qualifier her last year (last time not making AVP main draw)... Cook and her brother are Stanford grads
- #8 Brittany Howard / Kelly Reeves – 4th AVP event together (9th in all 3 prior events)... Howard, a Stanford grad, is playing in just her 10th AVP tournament... Reeves was 3rd here last year (one of two career semifinals)
- #9 Aurora Davis / Bree Scarbrough – 17th AVP event together (best of 7th in Austin 2018)... longest partnership in main draw... Scarbrough has only played one AVP tournament with partner other than Davis
- #10 Ali McColloch / Kendra VanZwieten – 2nd AVP event together (9th in Milwaukee 2014)... McColloch is from Grass Valley... VanZwieten eliminated Misty May-Treanor in her last AVP event ever (New Orleans 2016)
- #11 Lara Dykstra / Sheila Shaw – 4th AVP event together (best of 5th in Seattle 2018)... duo is 4-0 in three-set matches (including qualifiers)... Dykstra coming off career best finish (5th)... Shaw's 3rd in Seattle tied career best (4th time)
- #12 Janelle Allen / Kerri Schuh – 3rd AVP event together (5th in Austin after advancing from the qualifier)... the fifth-place finish in Austin tied a career best for Allen (once in 2016 and once in 2017) while it was a new career best for Schuh