

This statement was sent in an email to Play the Game on 24 October 2014

FIVB Statement

The Fédération Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB) refutes the accusations made by Mr. Chris Schacht, former President of the Australian Volleyball Federation and the Oceania Zonal Volleyball Association and FIVB Board member, in a letter to the volleyball community, dated 18 February 2014.

In this letter, Mr. Chris Schacht describes what he believes to be unfair removals from his international roles within the volleyball family. However, the FIVB is in possession of official documentation, dated both before and after Mr. Schacht's letter, which proves that Mr. Schacht's accusations are unfounded and misleading.

Following Mr. Schacht's resignation from the Australian Volleyball Federation (AVF) and the Oceania Zonal Volleyball Association, his successor as AVF President, Mr. Craig Carracher, was elected onto the FIVB Board of Administration to replace Mr. Schacht. This election was made by the Asian Volleyball Confederation (AVC) General Assembly, namely the same body that had elected Mr. Schacht in 2011. The replacement was in line with the FIVB constitution which provides that Continental Confederations elect (and may later replace) members to the FIVB Board of Administration.

Subsequently, on 18 March 2014 (i.e., after the statement was distributed), Mr. Schacht filed a complaint letter with the FIVB against the AVC decision to replace him. The FIVB, in accordance with its Regulations, submitted Mr. Schacht's appeal to the FIVB Appeals Panel. However, Mr. Schacht decided not to pursue legal action since he did not want to pay a standard administration fee which is common for bodies of this sort. In fact, Mr. Schacht was a member of the Legal Commission that approved the appeals regulations including the administration fee, which can anyway be reimbursed in the event of a successful appeal. Thus, Mr. Schacht's appeal was deemed withdrawn and the AVC decision became final.

The FIVB would also like to highlight that Mr. Schacht stood as a candidate for FIVB President in the election in 2012. All three candidates had the opportunity to build a campaign and present their candidature in front of the Assembly. As you know, these elections were conducted in an open and transparent way, broadcasted live from the FIVB website, which was a huge step toward modernisation and good governance of our organisation. The FIVB has been commended for the impeccable way it conducted the election process, confirmed also by the fact that the result was accepted by all three candidates immediately after its announcement.