



Honorable Mayor and Members of the Hermosa Beach City Council

APPROVAL OF NEW 2025 SPECIAL EVENT—AMATEUR ATHLETIC UNION HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BEACH VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE MATCHES

CEQA: Approval of the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) High School Boys Beach Volleyball League Matches would be exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15304 (e).
(Special Events and Filming Coordinator Austin DeWeese)

Recommended Action:

Staff recommends City Council:

1. Consider approval of the Parks, Recreation, and Community Resources Advisory Commission's ("Commission") recommendation to allow a new Impact Level II special event, the AAU High School Boys Beach Volleyball League Matches on the volleyball courts north of the Pier within the Commercial Zone on Sunday, October 12, on the 2025 Special Events Calendar; and
2. Determine the approval of the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) High School Boys Beach Volleyball League Matches would be exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15304 (e).

Executive Summary:

The Community Resources Department is tasked with overseeing special events on public property. New events require approval by City Council.

At its September 2, 2025 meeting, the Commission recommended City Council approve the inclusion of a new Impact Level II special event, the AAU High School Boys Beach Volleyball League Matches on the volleyball courts north of the Pier within the Commercial Zone on Sunday, October 12, 2025, on the 2025 Special Event Calendar.

Background:

The Special Events Policy Guide (**Attachment 1**) serves as a comprehensive document for event producers with information on the review and approval process, applicable fees, policies, and Hermosa Beach Municipal Code chapters and sections pertaining to special events. Special events are evaluated based on several factors and categorized as either Impact Level I, II, or III using the Impact Characteristics Matrix in the Special Events Policy Guide. The matrix considers event characteristics to determine the impact level. The

event's impact level determines the application submission deadline and the required level of review and approval, which may involve City staff, Commission, and/or Council. New events or Impact Level III events, which are events with the largest impact to the City, require Council approval. Impact Level II returning events require Commission approval, and Impact Level I returning events are approved by staff. Special event application deadlines are as follows:

- New events: If the new event is an Impact Level I or II, the application must be submitted at least 90 days in advance of the event. If the new event is an Impact Level III, the application must be submitted no later than July 30 for the following calendar year.
- Returning Impact Level III events: Must be submitted no later than July 30 for the following calendar year.
- Returning Impact Level II events: Must be submitted at least 90 days in advance of the event.
- Returning Level I events: Must be submitted at least 30 days in advance of the event.

Staff received an Impact Level II new special event application on July 30, 2025.

Past Commission Action

Meeting Date	Description
September 2, 2025	Commission recommended approval by the City Council the inclusion of Impact Level II new special event, AAU High School Boys Beach Volleyball League Matches, on the 2025 Special Events Calendar.

Discussion:

AAU requests to hold its High School Boys Beach Volleyball League matches on the beach volleyball courts north of the Pier within the Commercial Zone (10th to 15th Street on the beach) on Sunday, October 12, 2025. The event would include boys' high school volleyball matches, including South Bay high schools. The event producer estimates 150 participants and 100 spectators. The requested event date is included on the 2025 Special Events Calendar (**Attachment 2**). Additional event details are included in the AAU High School Boys Beach Volleyball League event overview (**Attachment 3**).

Traditionally, new events require review and a recommendation from the Commission to City Council through a public hearing. However, the application for this event was submitted after the application deadline. Impact Level II new special event applications must be submitted at least 90 days in advance. Due to the late submission and addressing scheduling conflicts with the initial requested dates with the event producer, staff was unable to meet the formal public noticing requirements necessary for a public hearing.

At the discretion of the Community Resources Director, special event applications may be submitted for consideration after the application deadline has passed, provided:

- There are unforeseeable circumstances (memorial service, team victory celebration, need for minimal marketing/advertising);
- The event does not exceed Peak Season (Memorial Day to Labor Day) Event Limits; and
- The event can still meet all of the event approval findings.

The event producer shared the justification for the late submission. During the AAU Hermosa Beach National Championships held this past July, the AAU Volleyball National Executive Committee convened a special meeting and selected Hermosa Beach as a key location to consider expanding high school students' participation in AAU beach volleyball. As a result, the Committee issued a directive to launch an AAU High School Boys Beach Volleyball League during the upcoming Fall season.

The proposed event date, Sunday, October 12, 2025, falls outside of the Peak Season (Memorial Day to Labor Day) and does not exceed the City's Peak Season event limits.

Fiscal Impact:

If approved, the City's General Fund would receive \$704 for the special event application fee.

Attachments:

1. Special Events Policy Guide
2. 2025 Special Events Calendar
3. AAU High School Boys Beach Volleyball League Matches Event Overview

Respectfully Submitted by: Austin DeWeese, Special Events and Filming Coordinator

Concur: Lisa Nichols, Community Resources Director

Noted for Fiscal Impact: Henry Chao, Finance Manager

Concur: Brandon Walker, Administrative Services Director

Legal Review: Jason Baltimore, Interim City Attorney

Approved: Steve Napolitano, Interim City Manager

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