

# Ceremonial First Play at FIVB Volleyball Nations League 2024 Fukuoka!



On Thursday, June 14, 2024, Dr. Isao Kurauchi, President of FOF and President-Elect of WVA, participated in the ceremonial first play at the Volleyball Nations League (VNL) 2024 Fukuoka, held in Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture.

After the game, Dr. Kurauchi presented One Health-certified Yame green tea to the head coach, players, and VNL organizers. Previously, he visited the Fukuoka Prefecture One Health Certification booth to observe its operations and commend their efforts (lower right picture).





## **[Volleyball Nations League 2024 Fukuoka and One Health]**

Excerpts from an interview with Ms. Aria Aoyama, Japan area representative of the Volleyball World

An event of this scale typically requires about 20,000 boxed meals during the entire period, and at least a quarter of them are left uneaten and disposed of. Instead, the VNL organizers provided their staff and volunteers with meal coupons valid at approx. 70 nearby restaurants and shops, eliminating food waste. This approach also promotes their health as they walk to purchase meals or dine at these restaurants while fostering connections with the surrounding environment and community.



Moreover, announcements have asked spectators to leave unwanted stick balloons at their seats to prevent them from being thrown away around the venue after use for cheering during matches. These balloons are then recycled through initiatives that reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

## **~ Joint Press Conference between Fukuoka Prefecture and FIVB ~**



On Wednesday, January 31, 2024, Governor Seitaro Hattori of Fukuoka Prefecture, General Director Fabio Azevedo of Fédération Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB), and JVA Senior Vice President Mr. Yuichi Kanekawa held a joint press conference to announce that Kitakyushu City was selected as a host city for the FIVB Volleyball Women's Nations League.

**[Mr. Fabio Azevedo, FIVB General Director]**

**“One of the decisive factors in selecting Kitakyushu as a host city was Fukuoka Prefecture’s commitment to actively implementing and promoting One Health initiatives”**

**[Mr. Seitaro Hattori, Governor of Fukuoka Prefecture]**

**“It gives us great pleasure that our One Health efforts have been a crucial factor in deciding Kitakyushu as a host city. We are also delighted that One Health has been highlighted as one of the FIVB NVL 2024’s main themes. We are committed to supporting the event and collaborating closely with all stakeholders for the success of the event.”**