St. Vincent and the Grenadines has been crowned champions in the 2018 Eastern Caribbean Volleyball Association (ECVA) Senior Men’s Championship held in Grenada from 1st to 4th November 2018.

In group play SVG had mixed results winning their first game against British Virgin Island 3-0 (25-8, 25-22 and 25-11) and losing a hard-fought second game against Grenada 3-0 (25-23, 25-23 and 25-22). Placing second in the group they sought redemption and played St. Kitts and Nevis in their quarter-final game walking away with a straight set win 3-0 (25-11, 25-13 and 25-22). This set up a semi-final match between joint defending champions of 2017 SVG and St. Lucia. SVG came from 2 sets down to overturn and upset St. Lucia in a thrilling 5 set match (18-25, 13-25, 25-13, 25-16 and 15 – 10). This set up a final match between SVG and Antigua and Barbuda who had secured their place in the final by beating Grenada in their semi-final match. SVG overhauled Antigua and Barbuda in an inspiring game of will and determination to claim a 5 set victory (25-22, 13-25, 26-24, 20-25 and 15-12) and the championship title.

The team comprised of Daryl Franklyn (Captain), Travis Cumberbatch, Asmond Franklyn, Ronaldo Franklyn, Jad Martin, Kwansie Peniston, Deandre Quashie, Jahmal Small, Delshun Welcome and Marvile Devon Williams.

Asmond Franklyn was named the Most Valuable Player in addition to his top award, Franklyn received the Best scorer award. Deandre Quashie secured the award for Best Middle Block.

By winning the championship, St. Vincent and the Grenadines has booked a place in the NORCECA Continental Championship in Puerto Rico scheduled for September 7-15 2019.

The team was prepared by Coaches Brian Burke and Eardley Martin who travelled with the team as well as additional intensive training over the last two weeks, from Mr. Francisco Cruz Jimenez, Trinidad national coach, currently in St. Vincent as part of the FIVB Sports Development – Coaching Support Project.

The St. Vincent and the Grenadines Volleyball Association would like to thank the St. Vincent and the Grenadines National Olympic Committee for providing the funding for participation in this competition as well as Mr. Gary Constantine of Constantine Fitness, who ensured that the team was physically fit for competition.

Final team placing: 1 – St Vincent and the Grenadines, 2- Antigua and Barbuda, 3- St. Lucia, 4- Grenada, 5 - St Kitts and Nevis and 6 – British Virgin Islands.
St. Vincent and the Grenadines Volleyball Association
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Deandre Quashie - Best Middle Blocker
Asmond Franklyn - MVP and Top Scorer

2018 ECVA Men's Champions
Back row l-r - Jad Martin, Deandre Quashie, Marvile Devon Williams, Ewansie Peniston, Asmond Franklyn, Travis Cumberbatch

Front row l-r - Daryl Franklyn (captain), Eardley Martin (coach), Delshun Welcome, Ronaldo Franklyn, Jahmol Small