

NHSOA Volleyball Newsletter 2019 -2

Sue Mailhot

NHSOA Volleyball Chair

402-598-4782 suemvb@cox.net

PART 2 TEST

This is the week to take the Part 2 test. The test is available 24 hours a day from Wednesday **Sept 11 to Monday Sept 16**. Remember the change in NSAA certification levels now requires certified referees to take the Part 2 test every year. You do not have to be at your own home to take the test. Because the test is on-line, you can take it wherever you have access to a computer and internet. Remember - you can only be taken once and you must score a 70 % or better to meet the criteria to be certified. If you have questions about the test, just let me know.

***NEW* R2 DUTIES**

New in 2019 – Rule 5-5-1b . . . collect each team roster during the prematch conference . . .

The NSAA has agreed to allow the coaches to enter their rosters in the score book early as long as it has been entered prior to the prematch conference. The roster can be entered by giving a sticker to the official scorebook or the coach can give their printed roster to the scorer to enter the information. This information was presented in the pre-season video that is required to be watched by all coaches and referees.

The prematch conference should be conducted at 20-25 minutes prior to the start of the match. If the coach has entered their roster (either by sticker or had the scorer print it) prior to that conference, the coach just needs to inform the R2 that this duty has been completed. The R2 should verify this information prior to the start of the conference. The roster can be changed until 10 minutes prior to the start of the match without penalty.

LINEUPS

Rule 7-1-2 . . . No later than two minutes prior to the end of the timed prematch warmup, a coach from each team **shall submit to the R2** an accurate, written lineup . . .

Second referees **MUST** ensure the lineup gets entered into the scorebook correctly. After the scorer has completed the lineup entry, you can just glance at what they wrote or you can read the lineup back to them.

I've been hearing stories this season that some referees are telling coaches it's not necessary for you to give the lineup for set 2 to the R2. That is incorrect information. Please don't confuse coaches by giving them wrong info.

ENDING A TIMEOUT

Warning whistle, followed by a HORN.

SITUATIONS

I am presented with many different situations from referees throughout the season. I am including some of the questions asked and the answers I presented.

1. In the opinion of a coach, both line judges and both officials missed a touch call at the net. The coach then sent the captain to R1 to say that "we heard the touch." Should unnecessary delay been called on the coach? The conversation was not for clarifying a call or something similar.

My answer: Well that's an interesting situation, but I would agree that it was an unnecessary tactic by the coach. Because I was not there, I cannot say definitely that an unnecessary delay card should have been given or not, but I can say that a stern warning should have been relayed to the coach through the captain that 'continued behavior by the coach to question the referee's judgement or to influence any referee decision will not be tolerated. This is your warning. Any further questioning will be sanctioned appropriately.' The rulebook actually assesses individual unsportsmanlike behavior to the coach.

I think it is necessary to use these exact words, as 1. you are using the words from rulebook and 2. you are not threatening them with a specific sanction but have now given them the information that a sanction will be given if this action continues.

2. Is the red libero jersey enough contrast for the dark colored jersey the rest of team wear?



Note to my answer: (from this newsletter you might not be able to actually see both uniforms. But the regular uniform is dark gray/black camouflage with 4 inch red inserts on both sides. The libero jersey is red with white accents.) My first question to you, as a referee is, if you just looked at the regular jersey what color would you say it is? Even though red is not as dominant as the gray color, there is still enough red that I would say the regular shirt is gray and red. So red should not be used as the libero color. I think the colors themselves are contrasting enough, but there is too much red on the regular shirt to be used as the libero jersey. Rule 4-2 states: The libero uniform top must clearly contrast from the predominant color(s) of the team uniform top, excluding trim. The libero's uniform top cannot be made solely of the same predominant color(s) of the team's uniform top, even if the like color(s) are placed differently on the uniform top. If you have this team again, you should inform them that their jersey is non-compliant. Ask if they have an alternate color (white would be good) and if they do not, then it is up to you if you want them to use a libero or not. The team should contact the NSAA to get a possible waiver or alternate determination.

3. I've starting to see these shorts on courts. It's my interpretation that they're illegal because the Nike logo on the waistband is clearly larger than 2 1/4" (and appears more than once, round and round the

waistband, violating the "a single manufacturer's logo/trademark/reference" language as well). Can you confirm or correct they are actually illegal or not?

Specifically, I've seen them twice so far. Only one player on each team. In both cases, we noticed fairly late in the match - they tend to show up primarily when players are reaching up (to serve, block, hit, etc) and be hidden under jerseys at other times. We did inform the coaches of the affected teams.

My answer: In past years, Jennifer (Schwartz of NSAA) has indicated that if this waistband (these shorts) are not noticeable/noticed when the players are standing on the endline for introductions they ARE acceptable. If this discrepancy is not visible at all times, then we should not worry about seeing it a few times (ie, when a player jumps, blocks, etc). I'm not exactly sure technically how legal or illegal those shorts are, but that is the NSAA interpretation and that is what we are going with. At this time, there is not a problem.

4. So, if I remember from the clinics I attended it was stated that if there is a "double" but the ball goes to the intended target, don't call the double. Am I correct on that and if so how do we justify it? I'm hearing all sorts of interpretations about this from officials as well as different opinions from coaches. Please advise!!

My answer: I think the point that was being made about 'doubles' is that, is it really a double contact if the ball goes where it was intended? Did one hand touch the ball before the other hand? Remember how we used to call doubles if a player put two fists up and the ball did contact one fist and then possibly the other fist? That is a double contact. Just because the ball is spinning as it is released, does not mean there was two distinct and separate contacts. Usually a spinning ball occurs because one hand contacted the ball in an uneven manner, not by two separate contacts.

If coaches (and or officials) are questioning non-calls of what they consider to be an illegal contact, you need to reiterate to them the exact rule (rule 9-4-5) which states: Legal contact is a touch of the ball by any part of a player's body which does not allow the ball to visibly come to rest or involve prolonged contact with a player's body. Rule 9-4-9 states: Multiple contacts are more than one contact by a player during one attempt to play the ball. Multiple contacts are permitted only:

- a. When the first ball over the net rebounds from one part of the player's body to one or more other parts in one attempt to block;
- b. on any first team hit, where or not the ball is touched by a block.

So as you can see, there is no 'double hit' call. If you use/repeat the words of the rulebook to coaches and other officials, the explanation is clear as to what should or should not be called.

ADDITIONAL SITUATIONS

1. I've had a few calls about how many matches girls can play in one night when it is C/JV/Var. Here is the language from the VB manual. If an official is asked, here is the answer, but it is not the officials responsibility to monitor:

"No student may participate in more than two matches per day. Any participation during a set of any match counts as participation in that match. A school that violates the student limitations shall be assessed a point/loss of rally and the student shall be removed from the set. The match shall then continue. If it is noticed by the scorer or brought to the scorer's attention that a student has violated the student limitation rule, the scorer shall notify the officials who then shall verify the violation and assess the penalty."

2. There have been a number of questions regarding daith piercings (piercing in the ear, other than the lobe) and full head coverings. These are exceptions to the rules and are allowed, but the player must have a waiver letter from the NSAA. You should ask to see the waiver.
3. The scoreboard operator (timer) can also be the libero tracker. The rules do not require that 3 separate individuals handle these duties. However, the rules do state that the scorer can only be 'the scorer' and cannot be the timer.

As a referee, we must always remember to 'stay in our lane'. We should only worry about the rules from the rulebook. I understand the coaches and schools come to us to request our authoritative opinion on many items, but usually those are situations outside of the rulebook. If your opinion is requested on items outside of the rulebook, you can refer them to the NSAA (Jennifer) or the NSAA volleyball manual. However, remember, both Jennifer and I want to assist you in getting your questions answered correctly. Please do not hesitate to send your situations.

ONLINE RULEBOOK

Because the NSAA is a 100% NFHS state, every certified official has access to the online rulebook. You should have recently received a message from noreply@nfhs.org with instructions on how to access the online rulebook and casebook. If you did not receive the message or need assistance, just let me know.

REFEREE OFFICIATING ITEMS

The white polo shirt that is worn by collegiate and club vb referees is ALLOWED to be worn during the high school season. You can order the white polo at <http://vbofficialsgear.com/>

For other officiating items (ie, whistles, net chains, bags, etc), check out www.roofsportswear.com This company has a referee starter pack with all the items a new referee needs to get started.

BLACK NSAA JACKETS

If you are interested in purchasing one of the lightweight black jackets that you see some of the referees wearing, you, too, can own one. Use this link:

<https://nebraskascreenprinting.com/product-category/team-apparel/nsaa/nsaa-official-volleyball/>

or you can find the link on my website at omnevb.net under the High School tab. Jackets start at \$25 and are in men's and women's sizes. They are not required to be worn by referees.



COMING SOON – a white version!! Jennifer has agreed to allow referees to wear the white version while reffing. So if you do not already have the certified officials white jacket, here is an option for you (if the gym is air conditioned). Look for more information coming soon. The black jacket CANNOT be worn on the stand.