

NHSOA Volleyball Newsletter

Sue Mailhot
NHSOA Volleyball Chair
suemvb@cox.net

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LOOKING FOR REFS

TU 9-23 Hebron JV/Varsity 6:15 pm start

TU 10-7 Niobrara JV/Varsity 5:30 pm start

SEASON REMINDERS

1. If a **libero is not identified on the lineup sheet** before the start of the set, but tries to enter the set later, the team is charged with an illegal libero entry (unnecessary delay). The team is not allowed to use a libero for the entire set as no libero was designated prior to the set.
 - a. You can do a little preventative officiating here when you notice there is no libero listed on the lineup sheet, but you see a libero warming up (or a libero uniform), you should verify with the coach regarding their use of the libero in that set.
2. The **end of game sequence** is very specific. You should be very deliberate when making this signal.
 - a. After awarding the final point to the winning team and showing the violation, you should hesitate, then cross your arms over your chest and blow the whistle to signal the game is over.
 - b. Then you whistle again to either show change of court or to release the teams to their bench.
 - c. These actions are separate and should be done in a deliberate fashion and not so fast that no one knows what is going on.

3. **Net violation call by R2**

The signal sequence when the **R2 blows the whistle and initiates a call** goes like this:

- a. When the R2 blows the whistle and initiates a call (ie, player in the net, centerline foul or other foul that can be called by the R2), the R2 indicates the nature of the foul
 - i. followed by a player's number,(only if necessary).
- b. The R1 waits for the R2 to show the number, then the R1 indicates which team will get the ball.
- c. The R2 should mirror the 'who gets the ball' signal at the same time as the R1.
 - i. The R1 then indicates the player number (only if necessary).

The R1 does not at any time give the signal for the fault nor does the R2 repeat the fault signal.

If the R1 whistles for the net foul, the regular procedures are used ('who gets the ball', followed by the nature of the fault). R2 repeats the signals.

4. **Back Row Setter**

When a back row setter and an opposing blocker contact a ball that is entirely above the net at the same time, a VIOLATION MUST BE CALLED. If the ball is in the plane, then Back Row Block is called on the back row setter. If the ball is entirely on the setter's side of the net, then Reaching Over should be called on the blocker. But something must be called.

5. There is no rule that prohibits players having **tattoos**.

6. The **width of a headband** is limited to 2 inches, but (seriously) are you out there measuring? If you feel a headband is exceptionally wide, you can inform the coach, who can address it with the player. The player might be able to fold it to an acceptable width.
7. **Tape on ears** is NOT acceptable. If you see tape on a girl's ear, you may ask them 'do you have an earring under that tape'? If they say 'no', you have taken care of your liability of something happens. But I would also ensure that the coach is aware that the girl has taped ears (because sometimes coaches are not aware).
8. The **Libero can attack from back row** as long as . . .
It is OKAY for the Libero to attack from the back row as long as . . . (help me here) – at the moment of contact the ball is NOT entirely above the height of the net. So if in the R1's judgment, the ball was not entirely above the height of the net, it is a legal play. You cannot just call all Libero attacks from the back row as illegal because you consider the Libero to be a defensive player. So an illegal back row attack MUST be called if when the libero contacts a ball that is ENTIRELY ABOVE the height of the net and sends the ball to the other team's court. It is not illegal until . . . it is contacted by an opponent or entirely crosses the net.

OFFICIALS MANUAL

The Officials Manual starts on page 55 of the casebook. There is an introduction about the general purpose of the manual and officiating in general. In case you've not read this part of the book, I've taken the liberty to print some of the key points.

- 2) **Development:** Each individual should strive to increase his/her knowledge of the playing rules, develop appropriate officiating skills and maintain good physical condition necessary to meet the responsibilities of an interscholastic official.
 - a) Knowledge
Complete knowledge of the rules is essential. To know the rules thoroughly requires contact and analytical study. The rules should be studied before the opening of the season and continuously be reviewed throughout the season. Small group discussions of play situations can be quite beneficial.
 - b) Mechanics
Knowledge of the rules alone does not ensure competency. Understanding and using proper mechanics are necessary to administer the match. An official learns correct signals, positioning, duties, procedures and protocols by study of the officials manual. However, skill is increased only by actual use of the mechanics in match situations. Officials should observe and work with each other to refine their techniques.
 - c) Meetings and Events
An official must be a student of the game. That involves expanding his/her knowledge and understanding of developments in technique and strategy. Attending events at which the official may learn through observation and applied theory is beneficial.
- 3) **Presentation**
The general conduct, character and attitude of an official should present an example worthy of respect and admiration among those with whom he/she comes in contact. The official must not comment on or make predictions relative to the outcomes of matches or have improper associations at the match site or elsewhere in connection with the contest. The official should never discuss the plays or players of an opponent with any coach. Comments or discussion of other officials' calls are also inappropriate.
 - a) Character
The official must be an ethical, fair and honest person, conforming to the Officials Code of Ethics. Being

conscientious, courteous, having a good sense of humor and pride in his/her work are also important characteristics.

b. Conduct

In general, the official shall:

1. Conduct himself/herself according to the Officials Code of Ethics (found on page 67 of the rulebook)
2. Cultivate conscientious attention to detail, alertness and quick reaction.
3. Decline contests involving a school with which he/she has a personal affiliation.

- 4) Minimize contact with individuals other than contest management personnel at the site before, during and after the contest.

DURING THE MATCH, the official should:

- 1) Refrain from coaching or being overly familiar with players, coaches or other team personnel.
- 2) Be firm, courteous, dignified, positive, friendly, calm, poised, and always alert.
- 3) Make use of a good sense of humor without undue levity.
- 4) Make impartial rulings.
- 5) Refrain from the use of profanity or profane gestures in communication with players, coaches, spectators or other event personnel. Avoid arguments.
- 6) Ignore spectator reactions and remarks unless they interfere with the match.
- 7) Anticipate problem situations. The presence of a calm, poised official, in whom players and coaches have confidence, will prevent most unwanted situations. Referees should be prepared to answer legitimate questions from the coach and the captain throughout the match.
- 8) Accept the possibility of errors and, when appropriate, make corrections according to the rules. Officials must learn to set aside thoughts about calls already made so that full attention is on the next contact or situation. Personal review of decisions shall be done after the contest.
- 9) Cooperate with, and be loyal to, the other members of the officiating team. A shared evaluation of match situations shall be discussed by official after the contest in a private area. Public criticism of fellow officials is never appropriate.

c. Attitude

Teamwork is essential to good officiating: a cooperative attitude is crucial. By rule, the duties are divided between the first referee and the second referee for efficient and effective administration of the match. Although different, each job is of equal importance and dependent on the other. Officials must respect the separate and specific duties of each assignment, giving their full and best effort to the task. Officials help one another when necessary, but must not neglect assigned duties to assist in another person's jurisdiction.

An official's attitude shall be the same toward each contest, without regard to its level or status. If an official agrees to work, then the match is worthy of his/her very best effort.

I've been presented with numerous unusual situations this season. I'm glad everyone is working to get it right. The deadline to register to work post season is right around the corner (Oct 1). Sign up today, so you can work. Continue to have a great season and I hope to see you on a court sometime,

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