

NFHS Volleyball Rules Changes 2011-12

- 1-3 new 3** Outlines the procedure for scoring when a vacant position rotates to serve in the right back position due to the fact that there are more than six players as a result of illness, injury or disqualification.
- Rationale:** Provides clarification of proper scoring protocol when a team plays with fewer than 6 players due to illness, injury or disqualification, after the start of the match.
- 2-1 new 9 and 10** Adds the definitions for playable and nonplayable areas and stipulates the first referee has the authority to identify areas that are unsuitable for play.
- Rationale:** The rules currently refer to playable and nonplayable areas. For clarification, these areas are defined and the first referee has the authority to identify other unsuitable area(s) for play.
- 3-1-1** The overall width and length of the net may now fall within a range with the width of the net overall being 36 feet, 6 inches to 38 feet, 6 inches and length being 31 feet, 6 inches to 33 feet.
- Rationale:** The inclusion of a range makes legal the various equipment being utilized by high school teams that is currently being conducted in college facilities. The change does not require new equipment and eliminates need for manufacturing custom nets which many schools are not correctly purchasing.
- 3-1-1** The plain white tape along the top of the net shall be 2 inches up to 2¾ inches wide. A white net sleeve, no longer than 2 feet, with the school name, insignia, school mascot and/or advertising may be installed along the top of the net.
- Rationale:** The inclusion of the range makes legal the various equipment being utilized by high schools that is currently being conducted in college facilities. The use of a manufactured sleeve allows the school to place their name, mascot, insignia and advertising on the net without expense of a custom net to promote school spirit and opportunity as a source for additional revenue.
- 4-1-6** Expands the style of items that may be worn in the hair to include unadorned flat barrettes no longer than 2 inches.
- Rationale:** Flat, unadorned barrettes, no longer than two inches, do not create a concern for risk of injury and are used to fasten and serve as efficient means to control a player's hair.
- 5-1-3** Once the match competition is concluded, the match officials continue to maintain administrative responsibilities and report on any required reports or correspondence related to action occurring during the match. If necessary, the state association may intercede due to unusual incidents after officials' jurisdiction ends or the match is terminated prior to conclusion of the match.
- Rationale:** Administrative duties for match officials may need to continue after the match to document action during the match. This revision illustrates the difference between the match officials' jurisdiction during the contest and the state association's responsibilities such as submitting specific reports after the match. In addition, clarifies that State Association officials may intercede and implement policies that allow for review of unusual incidents that occur while the match officials have jurisdiction during the match.
- 5-2-1 new NOTE 2** The individual state association may make a temporary adjustment in the official's uniform and permit the use of a sweater to address cold conditions within competition facilities.
- Rationale:** Many times officials will be required to work in gymnasiums in which the temperature is quite cold. If officials are wearing different visible undergarments or different style shirts, the state association may develop a policy to allow officials to wear a long-sleeved shirt or sweater and still maintain the integrity of the officials' uniform.
- Volleyball Signals #1, Case Book** The illegal alignment signal shall be used for a libero replacement after the whistle/signal for serve. It is also used for the penalty being assessed for failure to submit an accurate lineup.
- Rationale:** Clarifies "Illegal Alignment" is the penalty for a libero replacement that takes place after the whistle/signal for serve, regardless of whether or not the ball is contacted for serve. The additional use of the signal is to indicate a penalty for failure to submit an accurate lineup and will improve communication between officials and spectators who are watching the match.

2011-12 MAJOR EDITORIAL CHANGES

- 4-1 New Note** Clarifies the authority and criteria for the state association to authorize exceptions to the playing rules to provide for accommodations to individual participants.
- 8-1-1** Reference to a "let " serve is removed from the rules and replaced with language indicating a serve contacting the net or being contacted entirely within the antennas remains in play.
- 9-5-5 Note** An illegal back-row attack is called when the ball completely crosses the net or is contacted by the opponent's hands or arms.

2011-12 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

1. Referee stand
2. Libero uniform
3. Host school providing assistant officials
4. Suspended net systems