

SRI Bulletin #1
August 2010

Welcome back to the start of the 2010 season. I trust you are all as busy as I am getting ready for matches to start next week. Here are a few clarifications that have come up so far this season:

New Rule 10-1-4 (Procedural Suggestion)

If a head coach approaches you about making a substitution to their starting line-up from the 2 minute mark to set start time (or 1 minute mark in following sets) please use the following guidelines:

- 1) Ask them to send their substitute to the sub zone as you are preparing to check the team line-ups directly before the start of the set.
- 2) After you check the line-up, make the substitution, and then wave the libero into the set (if applicable).
- 3) Be sure the scorekeeper and tracker get the sub.
- 4) If there are multiple subs they can all be done legally at this time. (Preventive officiating measure by having them all at once).

This will avoid any potential issues if they make a sub early and then you find an error on the court when you are checking the line up. (A rarity). Remember new this year, it is a line-up change penalty if a coach writes down a number on the line up card that doesn't exist.

Updates from Questions I referred to NFHS:

1) The libero starts to go back to serve as #7 switches for #3. The coach changes his/her mind and sends #3 back in to serve and the libero comes out, all within the proper zone. Is there any penalty?

If the players move on and off the court but really have not committed to the new positions, say just a few steps on/off court, no penalty but R2 would tell coach to have players or decision made earlier to prevent a delay. If players have switched and then quickly change before whistle and signal for serve you have an unnecessary delay. Your tracker has, or should, have recorded the replacement and this last minute change will cause the tracker to change the tracking sheet...thus this is a delay.

2) Rule 4.2.1e/12.2.1 – An entire team changes clothes between matches in a tournament in the commons area of a school, just outside the gym. Who gets the unsportsmanlike conduct penalty?

The commons area would not be an area in which the officials have responsibility or authority to make a call. Thus there is no penalty assessed.

3) If the ball hits the ceiling on the 3rd hit is it an immediate whistle and "out" signal?

Yes

Comment on Ball Handling from Becky Oakes at NFHS:

NFHS rules are written and applied to be appropriate for the high school aged athlete. They are written so as not to create an advantage or disadvantage to the offense or defense. The officials must also apply them consistently. The rules are also written to preserve the integrity of the sport and that player's master the skill. For example, the ball-handling directive for

NCAA is not appropriate for high school players. The variance in the exceptional or athletic play is much greater as well as the variance in judgment by officials. Such a directive when not consistently applied would indeed have an impact on offense that could create an advantage or could also be considered a disadvantage if called tighter with fewer “athletic” saves. Our ball handling is not that much more strict, what happens at times is the officials may not have kept up with the advancement in the caliber of play...prolonged contact is prolonged contact but body position is not the key. Call what you see based only on the moment of contact of the body part with the ball. (Some just want a more loosely called game and think they are making calls like other codes when in fact they are just letting calls go by).

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