

OFFICIALS & COACHES INFORMATION

1. NFHS Rule Clarification – Re-serve

May a player bounce the ball off the floor on a serve and hit it off the bounce?

Response: Rule 8-1-1 "...The server shall hit the ball with one hand, fist or arm while the ball is held, or after it is released by the server." Rule 8-1-6 provides for a re-serve when "the server releases the ball for service, then catches it or drops it to the floor." It is not legal to bounce the ball off the floor and serve. Prior to the re-serve, a server would do this to have the receiving team move before they actually contacted the ball. The re-serve was added and a dropped ball results in a re-serve in accordance with the rules.

2. NFHS Rule Clarification – Libero Setting

If a libero sets (in front of the 10 foot line) using overhead finger action to a back row player, *behind the 10 foot line*, and she attacks the ball completely above the height of the net is it still a back row violation on the libero due to the set?

Response: Rule 9-5-6b provides a libero shall not "set the ball using overhand finger action while on or in front of the attack line extended, resulting in a completed attack above the height of the net." It is the position of the ball at the time of the completed attack and not the player position.

3. NFHS Rule Clarification – Rule 11-3-1 – Reviewing Decisions

Correct protocol for reviewing a decision by a referee that may have resulted in an incorrect decision is as follows:

- The head coach may request a time-out (during the dead ball immediately following the rule in dispute).
- The head coach and R2 may approach the R1 on the stand after the time-out is granted.
- If the ruling is altered the time-out is then charged to the official and the revision made.
- Decisions based on the judgment of the referees are final and not subject to review (11-3-3).

May a coach call a time-out to dispute a rule even if they have no time-out left? Do they have any course of action if they know the official is getting a rule interpretation incorrect?

Response: A team is only allowed two time-outs. A coach should not be allowed to call a time-out, and interrupt play even though the result may be a loss of rally/point. The coach has also interrupted play, which may have been the thought all along.

4. Rule Clarification – Rule 12-2-7 – Player leaving the bench during play

A player may go to a non-playable area (end of the bench or behind it) to warm up without volleyballs prior to entry in the set as a substitute at the next rotation.

Casebook 12-2-7 Situation A: A teammate of Team A leaves the bench to: (a) warm-up; (b) receive medical attention; (c) get a drink. RULING: (a), (b), and (c) legal.

There may be other reasons players are leaving the bench that would still fall under this clarification (bathroom, changing to libero jersey, etc.).

Thank you for those coaches who have been sending me video. This is a great teaching tool!

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