

2015-16 CIF State Protocols, Rule Interpretations

And Modifications to the NFHS Rule Book

Revised/Updated July 31, 2015

Individual CIF Section Bylaws/Constitutions:

Officials **shall not** have any responsibility in enforcing any part of any CIF Section Bylaws/Constitutions. All questions by coaches or school officials regarding player eligibility, total match contests, etc., should be referred to either the school administration, league management and/or their respective CIF Section office.

Libero Uniform Enforcement

The rule book states, “The libero must wear a uniform top that is immediately recognized from all angles as being in clear contrast to and distinct from the other members of the team.”

Both the R1 and R2 need to be able to immediately identify the libero to be able to ascertain their location and the nature of their contact with the ball. The R1 and R2 **must** agree on the legality of the libero uniform. If the two officials do not agree on the legality of the libero uniform, the libero uniform will be declared illegal and the player cannot play in the illegal uniform.

This does not mean that only the officials must be able to clearly and immediately distinguish who the libero is during play but there is an implied understanding that this must apply to the vast majority of the players, coaches, officials and spectators in attendance. The libero must be clearly and immediately distinguishable, not only standing around during a dead ball but also in the blur of play, as well as during libero replacements. For an R1 to say, “I can see it and I don’t care about the remainder of the individuals involved in the match,” is to lose the spirit of the rule, as well as the practical reasoning for the letter of the rule.

The assistant scorekeeper (libero tracker) is absolutely reliant on this visual information when performing their duties. As we all know, it is hard enough keeping our junior officiating crew focused without causing them further strain of having to “search” for the libero. This can also be applied to some of our well intentioned but inexperienced adult officiating crew.

The opposing team also deserves to be able to quickly determine the location of the libero in several respects, particularly in serve receive. This can also affect their offensive tactics and execution.

2015-2016 CIF State Ball Handling Rule and Philosophy

In the 2015 - 2016 NFHS case book beginning on page 96 it states that:

A legal contact:

- can be made with any part of the body.
- must be hit cleanly.
- must not be caught or thrown, cannot visibly come to rest or involve prolonged contact.

Note: One the first contact, a ball rolling up a player's arms - as long as the ball is not caught/thrown - is considered multiple contacts in one act of playing the ball.

In order to determine the legality of each contact, the first referee should lead the ball with their eyes, rather than follow the ball in the air. The first referee must focus on the actual contact of the ball on the body part, and then pick up the next play/player with his/her eyes. External stimuli such as, preliminary body position of the player, unorthodox movement or poor technique during the contact, sound or the spin on the ball after contact are not part of the referee's criteria for making a judgment on ball-handling. Referees cannot be influenced by the spin of a white or multi-colored ball, players, coaches, or spectators while making any decisions, especially during the assessment of ball-handling. **There are no "automatic" ball-handling calls in volleyball.**

The second referee does not whistle ball-handling faults. In the event the second referee observes what he/she may perceive as a ball-handling fault out of the view of the first referee, the second referee will use a discrete signal to the first referee. If the first referee passes on the signal, the second referee will drop the signal.

This ball handling philosophy is only intended by the CIF State and NFHS for varsity matches. It is the current philosophy of the CIF State and NFHS that the lower levels (junior varsity and freshman) are designated as "developmental" levels. This designation implies even wider latitude of ball handling techniques and the extra emphasis and use of preventative officiating techniques and protocol enforcement. This **DOES NOT** excuse any safety or liability issues.

It has been decided to request that each official lessen the severity of their calls for all levels as well. Obviously, the gross and egregious, non-simultaneous multiple contacts need to be whistled immediately. But if an official is unsure if they saw a multiple contact then they should error to the side of allowing play to continue. However, this **DOES NOT** indicate that there should be an artificial increase in caught/thrown, prolonged contact or "lift" calls made during a match. It is also extremely important to maintain an even, consistent level of ball handling throughout a match. If you wouldn't call it at the first point of the first set then you should not call it at match point of the deciding set.

NFHS Signal Sequence (Supplement to NFHS Rule book)

When stopping play:

R1:

1. R1 blows their whistle with authority.
2. R1 signals point/winner of rally, replay or re-serve.
 - ❖ Mirrored by R2.
3. R1 signals the result of the play or fault (see below) as necessary.
 - ❖ Mirrored by R2.

If the R1 initiates a fault call:

1. R1 blows their whistle with authority.
2. R1 signals point/winner of rally.
 - ❖ Repeated by R2.
3. R1 signals fault with appropriate signal.
 - ❖ Repeated by R2 (**Exception: R2 does not repeat the signal for net serve**).
4. R1 indicates the uniform number of the player at fault by showing the player's number (if necessary- See below protocol for indicating player numbers.)
 - ❖ Repeated by R2.

Note: While it is preferred that the R2 move to the side of the team committing the fault in this situation, it is not required.

If the R2 initiates a fault call:

1. R2 blows their whistle with authority.
2. R2 moves to side of team committing the fault.
3. R2 signals fault with appropriate signal.
4. R2 indicates the player at fault by showing the player's uniform number (net fault only).
 - ❖ **(see Note A)**
5. If R1 accepts the R2's decision, R1 initiates point/winner of rally signal.
 - ❖ Repeated by R2. **(see Note B)**
6. R1 then repeats the number of the player at fault (net fault only). Not repeated by the R2

Note A: When responding to a request from the head coach, during a dead ball, to identify a player at fault, the R2 must always turn and face that head coach and both verbally and physically give the correct information.

Note B: At no time does the R2 initiate the point/winner of rally signal. Only the R1 for the match may initiate this signal.

CIF State Protocol for indicating number of player at fault

When indicating the player at fault by number:

- Numbers 1-9: Show appropriate fingers.
- Numbers 0, 00, 10: Show closed fist of one hand (00 would be shown using 2 closed fists at the same time.)
- Numbers 11-19: Combine above signals. Use the **right** fist for 10. If the number is 16-19, use the “double pump” technique and show right fist first and then the second digit.
- Numbers 20 and up: Show first digit with right or both hands, then second digit with left or both hands.

Note: When responding to a request from the head coach, during a dead ball, to identify a player at fault, the R2 must always turn and face that head coach and both verbally and physically give the correct information.

CIF State Rule Interpretations and Modifications

1. End of set signal (Signal 24) will be performed as follows:
When a set ends, the R1 will whistle and signal “end of set.” with open hands. An additional whistle will accompany the “change courts” signal; after completing the “end of set” signal, the R1 will lower his/her hands to their sides and then raise their right arm (fisted) in front of them to waist level, while placing their left arm (fisted) behind them at waist level. Note: Do not swing arms around body.
2. Further clarification of Rule 2.3.1h, the definition of “vertical” is 90 degrees perpendicular from the playing surface.
3. Libero exchanges, time-out requests or substitution requests may not be allowed during a replay (**Note: 8-1-6 & 9-8**)
4. Use of the NCAA/PAVO Timeout protocol is not appropriate and shall not be utilized. The head coach should be notified at the end of their timeout of the number of timeouts used by their team.
5. Use of the NCAA/PAVO line judge protocol regarding “pancake” plays off the court is not appropriate and shall not be utilized.
6. Any color net sleeve is permitted.
7. **Arm and/or knee sleeves/braces as well as tights, are to be considered medical devices and are not to be classified as undergarments under rule 4.2, Article 2 (actually, 4-2-1b2) and do not need to be of a color similar to the uniform top. Please note that these medical devices do not require a CIF Section written waiver.**

8. The signal for a ball crossing the center line shall be signal 2 (line violation).
9. Signal 20 (illegal substitution) in the rule book **IS NOT** to be used. See Signal 22
10. Signal 19 **(16?)** (substitution) shall be performed with open or closed fists.
11. Signal 21a (Time-out) may be performed either below or above the eyes (do not restrict line of sight).
12. When used, it is **recommended** that the line judge flags are solid red in color and should be of a size 12 inches by 12 inches to approximately 16 inches by 16 inches. Use of flags is required for certified officials/line-judges only.
13. Signal 6 (net fault or net service fault) shall be performed by the R1 touching the side of the net (standard/pole, or top of net rope/wire/chain) with the hand on the side at fault. However, if the R2 initiates the net fault then the R1 does not repeat Signal 6 (see note on signal sequence). Note that the R2 never touches the net to indicate any fault and does not signal net service fault at any time.
14. Discrete signals from the R2 to the R1 should be given at chest level. This includes time-outs used, 4 contacts, multiple contacts, back-row attacks and set/match point. During play it is recommended that these signals be indicated on the shoulder furthest from the standard. The discrete signal from the R2 to the R1 in the case of an illegal contact must be shown at chest level. The R1 should nod to accept this information but should not repeat the signal.
15. In the case of an **unnecessary delay of game(YUD/RUD)** assessment, the following procedure shall be followed:
 - a. Blow your whistle with authority.
 - b. Stop all playing action or match interruptions from occurring.
 - c. Using signal 22 (**unnecessary delay**) indicate the team receiving the **unnecessary** delay of game sanction.
 - d. Notify the coach and captain that their team is being assessed a **unnecessary** delay of game sanction and the reason for that sanction.
 - e. ~~If that team does not have a time out remaining then indicate a point/loss of rally to the other team and no time out will be allowed.~~

16. ~~When the R2 is requesting a card from the R1 they should step to the sideline of the court on the side of the team or individual to be sanctioned, whistle and verbally request (as well as show signal 22 without utilizing cards), the specific level of sanction, as well as the coach, player or team member to receive this sanction. At no time shall the R2 display a card to either the R1 or to any individual. **Please see #15 above**~~
17. Neither the team nor coach is eligible for an **unnecessary delay** or sportsmanship (yellow or red or yellow/red) sanction due to issues with crowd/spectator behavior.
18. Fan's stomping on the bleachers and/or floor does not constitute use of an artificial noisemaker.
19. Team members participating in a spontaneous/choreographed celebration may do so under the following circumstances:
- a. Any behavior and/or comments made during the celebration are not unsporting.
 - b. The celebration does not cause a delay of the match.
 - c. The celebration occurs in close proximity to the bench area.
20. At the end of a set, if another set is to be played that is not a deciding set, the R1 immediately gives the signal for the teams to change courts. The players then proceed in a counterclockwise direction outside the antennas, along the sideline, and directly to their new bench area without reporting to the end-line. Players on the R1's right (R2's left) may collect their belongings prior to directly going to their new bench area. Team members off the court change team benches immediately. The 3-minute interval between sets begins when the teams are directed to change team areas.
21. Between sets the R2 should give a warning whistle (2 short whistles) at **30** seconds prior to the end of the 3:00 time between sets. The horn should be allowed to sound when remaining time gets to 0:00 unless both teams are already on the court at which time the R2 should sound his or her whistle and direct the timer to sound the horn to officially end the time limit.
22. Team members shall not be in the warm-up zone unless actively warming up and entering the game within a reasonable length of time (10 minutes).
23. If a host school cannot supply enough chairs to accommodate all team members, then the team members would need to be seated on the floor and the area where they are sitting would be considered an extension of the bench and becomes a non-playable area. Requiring a team to remove any individual from the bench area due to a lack of seating is not allowed.
24. Use of a lineup card by either the R1 or the R2 is no longer approved and shall not be used.

25. "Dig Pink": If a school is hosting a "Dig Pink" or Cancer Awareness event the following policies are in force:
- Officials are no longer allowed to wear pink shirts. However, use of a pink whistle and/or lanyard is encouraged.
 - The ball must remain legal, without prior written CIF Section approval that must be presented to the R1 assigned to that match.
 - The libero uniform must remain legally contrasting NFHS uniform rules.
26. When an official determines that any attempt to play a ball will place a player in an unsafe situation. That official must whistle to end the play either before or simultaneously at the contact of the ball by that player.

CIF State Score-keeping directive

CIF State has officially prescribed the use of the "collegiate" style of scoring, individual schools are not required to use the "collegiate" score sheets.

The official scoring method to be instructed to and used by all CIF State association members will be a variation of the "collegiate" style utilized by the NCAA/PAVO. **Effective 2016-2017 season**

The CIF State variations from the NCAA/PAVO scoring method will be:

- Use of the "T" and "Tx" will be included in the scoring values kept in the area used to count individual points, substitutions and loss of rally.
- When a team is using a ghost position, that loss of rally shall be noted as a **circled and squared R** in that empty serving position.
- Scorers are encouraged to use alternating colored writing implements. However, pencils may be used.

The uniform for all CIF volleyball officials is:

- Navy Blue pants
- Black or navy blue belt
- White "certified volleyball official" shirt
- White, calf-high or longer, athletic socks
- White leather athletic shoes

It is an expectation for all CIF State officials to adapt to new rules, mechanics, protocols, and philosophies within the sport of volleyball.

If you have any further questions please contact your association/unit instructor and the CIF State Volleyball Rule Interpreter at CIFVolleyballrep@gmail.com.