

Volleyball Clinic Information 2023-24:

Dealing with Coaches

Topics

- **DURING PLAY**
 - **Court and issue awareness**
 - **What do you see?**

Start by being aware of potential issues that may occur on the court that you will need to deal with at your position. Whether you are R1 or R2. The following areas need our PROACTIVE attention before they occur if possible. When coaches see us handling our duties correctly it gives them confidence in us and allows them to coach players rather than being worried about what the officials are doing. BE PREPARED. Although we can not be aware of everything that might happen and when it occurs we can be prepared to handle the situations through preparation.

- **Professionalism at all times**
 - **Dress for Success - how do we look?**
 - **Listen first, answer coaches questions only - do not assume that you know what they want or what they are concerned with.**
 - **Know when to say YES, I can do that? (Check the score) or NO, asking for something that might be an improper request or delay the match.**

High Road in professionalism is always the BEST APPROACH for officials and is often difficult to maintain if coaches are ranting. We as officials need to make sure we are not the reason they are ranting. Anticipate, be Aware of what is going on and what will be occurring soon in the match. We need to make it our goal that Coaches have nothing to complain about when the match is going on. This will help eliminate many issues for us as officials.

- **Own your Area**
 - **Score table**

Pre Match with all workers to help with potential issues that may occur. Talk to your Scorekeeper, Assistant scorer, (Libero tracker), Scoreboard operator. Review scoring issues, wrong servers, timeout procedures, substitution procedures, and other issues they may occur during the match. All of these things add to the confidence that Coaches will have in the Officiating crew which will help your match run smoothly. It will also help if a situation arises, that we as officials have already handled things professionally up to that point. The use of proper rule book verbiage is important when discussing items with scoretable personnel.

- **Sub zones**

Anticipation of sub zone situations during the match. Know your rules! Players are the only team members allowed in the sub zone, One at a time. Coaches and multiple subs should NOT be allowed in the sub zone. As officials we need to know the number of timeouts taken for each team as it will help eliminate issues. Ask your score keeper to announce the number of subs used after each set of substitutions, this way you will always be prepared for the 2 most frequent questions. How many timeouts? or subs? do I have? If a coach does enter the sub zone to discuss an issue it is our job to escort them out of the zone. Simply walk to their bench outside of their sub zone, they will follow you. Remember they came in to talk to you, they will certainly follow you to talk. The use of proper rule book verbiage is important when discussing with coaches.

Using Proper technique for subs builds confidence with the coaches and your partner.

- **Timeouts**

Need to be aware of teams going on a run, (3-5 points in a row), or end of game situations, casually moving closer to the bench in anticipation to hear the coach call for a timeout is a good thing. Be aware some coaches will wait until the very last moment to call their timeout or might be soft spoken.

We need to know how many timeouts each team has taken. Coaches without timeouts will/may intentionally ask how many TO's or How many subs do I have remaining? We as officials slow the game down by having to check on information we should already know. This is exactly what the coach wants and is unfair to the opposing team. The use of proper rule book verbiage is important when discussing with coaches. Using Proper technique for time outs builds confidence with the coaches and your partner.

- **Substitutions**

- When is a sub coming? - Know your rotations.

Officials should seldomly be surprised by a sub entering the sub zone. If we know our rotations we can eliminate most substitution issues. Remember that subs, (if multiple by the same team) need to come together. **SCANNING** the benches is an underused skill that we as officials need to get better at. Frequently looking at both benches during dead ball time is a great skill to develop. Become aware of your surroundings and not just the play on the court. Dead ball situations is NOT rest time for an official.

- **Out of time outs?**

Most coaches are aware of the number of timeouts they have used, they are just looking for confirmation. Be prepared with your answer. Going to the score table for the answer is delaying the match and maybe all the time the coach needs to call a play or make changes without using a timeout. Again, this is unfair to the opposing team.

- **Know teams # of subs remaining / score keeper**

Ask your score keeper to announce the number of subs used after each set of substitutions, this way you will always be prepared. Use proper signaling to your coaches and R1 to communicate effectively.

- **Explanation of play**

Coach wants to know what that call was? Or Wants an explanation of what happened? Make sure you understand the question being asked? Answer using correct rule book language. I **STRONGLY SUGGEST**.... You start your conversation with **IN MY JUDGMENT** and then explain using rule book verbiage. When we use the words.... **IN MY JUDGMENT**.... The rule book states that **OFFICIALS JUDGMENT** can not be argued. Another great reason for us to know our rule book inside and out.

- **Yelling across the court at R1**

Unfortunately, there are times when coaches get upset and feel the need to express their feelings towards officials. **REMAIN CALM - REMAIN IN CONTROL!**

First of all, Coaches are never allowed to **YELL** or direct comments across the court toward the R1. As the R2, our job is to get in front of the coach and ask... **WHAT IS YOUR QUESTION?** Make the coach deal with you. Coaches are to talk to the R2 only. Yellow card minimum, for yelling across the court. RED card can be appropriate for yelling across the court.

Jestering can also be seen as Questioning judgment. The coaches or players raising 2 fingers to signal you missed a double call would be a good example of Jestering. We should warn the first time and use our cards after that.

Things to consider

1. Are they **VENTING** or are they **QUESTIONING**?

2. **VENTING IS OK** as long as it does not cross the line. Sometimes coaches just want to talk to someone loudly about how their team is playing.... It is OK to listen. Do not allow **VENTING** to cross the line into **Questioning your judgment**.
3. Sometimes coaches have legitimate questions to ask about clarifying what happened. Be Professional, use rule book verbiage, and do not allow the situation to become a delay. Explain the situation and move on. Be aware of the situation interfering with play. Team delays can / should be assessed if needed. Your explanation of the situation should end the situation, and return to play.
4. Pre Match with your other official about your body language when dealing with coaches. Face to Face conversation with the coach is ok, R1 should give R2 the time they need. If R2 turns to face the R1 and is ready, play should start immediately after returning the court for play. If coaches are still engaging / arguing Y/R Cards should be used.
5. At some point the R2 needs to say.. It's time to play on and return the court to the R1 for play to continue.
6. The use of proper rule book verbiage is important when discussing with coaches.
 - What's acceptable? - Know your LINE

This can be tough to be consistent with, but here are some guidelines that might help

- Previously thinking through where your line should be is a great help when things get a little sideways. It will also help with being consistent.
- Are they Venting?? It's ok to vent - no cards needed unless language or actions are inappropriate **USE YOUR CARDS IF NEEDED.**
- Are they trying to get Clarification on something that happened? **LISTEN** and **EXPLAIN** using rule book verbiage.
- Are they Questioning the Officials Judgment? OR Questioning what happened? Continued Questioning of Officials judgment should be carded. Start with a yellow card and go from there. Remember that a Yellow card says - don't do that again. The sooner you card the coach for these actions the smoother the match will go.
- Team Delays are often missed in these situations. If coaches are continuing to argue we as officials need to stop it. **USE YOUR CARDS!**

Video on Ball handling and other situations

(Instructions to the presenters) When you get onsite load all the videos into the browser prior to the presentation. (Left click link, right click on pop-up, left click on Copy link address) I created 4 separate windows with the double hits and ball handling in the first, the back row setter play in the second, libero play in the third, and official's call sequences in the fourth.

(Instructions to the participants) The purpose of this presentation is to give officials an opportunity to train their eyes to catch certain violations. It is not for the purpose of evaluating officials or players. Please focus on the actions being emphasized in each section:

1. Double Hits/Ball Handling
2. Back row setter play
3. Libero play
4. Officials call sequences

There are several clips to get through so please write down any questions you may have and save them for after the clips have been shown. Please reference the clip number in each section if you have a question about a certain clip. A big thanks to Ben Van Wyk for creating the links to each clip.

(Presentation Notes for Double Hits) Play each video clip and emphasize body/hand position. This gives the participants an idea of how to effectively anticipate the play while it is developing and start to get the mind ready for what might happen next. Feel free to replay the point of illegal contact to help show what the body/hands are doing that makes the hit illegal. Be careful not to overdue replays because there is only 15 total minutes for the presentation.

Double Hits

(Double Hit Spin watch arms) - <https://youtube.com/clip/UgkxHIWJrIp9e2QwFrNBiktGcWXT5cFHuqN3>

(Double on setter shoulders not square) -

https://youtube.com/clip/UgkxdnCBtA3VwXuZtFzJ88wKjw7AI_5aL3K

(Double on setter feet/shoulders out of position) -

<https://youtube.com/clip/UgkxpORMByzYQv4U29fQVAlefldqFvulXFmd>

(Double Hit on setter overpass) - <https://youtube.com/clip/Ugkxp0BNw0rmMq0On19t7jMvbRzmvdGrIhSm>

(Double hit by attacker shoulders wrong) - <https://youtube.com/clip/UgkxGNksiKVk9oIi41SEKOUiPF7-NNChB-cT>

(Middle double contact on attack shoulders) -

<https://youtube.com/clip/Ugkxfy2coVlsTgzzorylmtgJC6rDQOkako7G>

(Double on 2nd hit in a dig situation.) - <https://youtube.com/clip/UgkxUEOGVgnjc948AW8OIRDPFRf1kLBvs28G>

(Presentation Notes for Ball Handling) Interject Rule 9.4.5 during these two videos. "The ball shall not come to rest or have prolonged contact." Might want to talk about a good way to judge a ball coming to rest or having prolonged contact is to determine whether the ball was caught or thrown. Please note the word "lift" is not in the rulebook language. Please do not use that term in your presentation when talking about the ball coming to rest or having prolonged contact. Also emphasize rule 9.4.8a&b. On the block or first hit, pretty much anything goes outside of a catch or throw.

Ball Handling 1st Hit - Play on

(Ball handling ugly but not illegal) - https://youtube.com/clip/UgkxPcdEG1Xuby_UI3MzKJl1H8eBgwK_Hm0

(Sloppy is not illegal) - <https://youtube.com/clip/UgkxYIUhGNUMS4V0YYoIrbEHv4c7XwQxzIHhu>

(Presentation Notes for Back Row Setter Play) Incorporate a review of rules 9.5.3, 9.5.4, and 9.5.5 during this section. It would also be a good time to talk about all the things that can go wrong on an overpass when the setter is in the back row. (For the sake of time, this must be done during the process of viewing the video clips.) Examples of issue during an overpass include the following: Illegal attack on the defense if they attack a ball completely on the opponent's side of the net, illegal attack on the defense if they block a ball completely on the opponent's side of the net prior to the offense having the opportunity to complete an attack, backrow attack on the setter if she attempts to set or save the ball when the ball is positioned completely above the height of the net and it crosses the plain of the net or is legally blocked, backrow attack on the setter if she sets

or saves the ball after it has completely crossed the plain of the net and brings it back, illegal block on the setter if the ball is hit or blocked back into her hands while the ball and her hand is completely above the height of the net, double contact by the setter.

Back Row Setter Play

Overpass Setter back row attack - <https://youtube.com/clip/UgkxBUsfuyIPnsHZbgKWoggQ7r48rPSXOI7G>

Overpass back row setter block - <https://youtube.com/clip/UgkxxP8qXDOUQeBvnRp7jiLHWtJfKgcVxpt6>

Overpass Setter back row attack - <https://youtube.com/clip/Ugkx1iB7wD37oZXWvWBWqXvI0qg690JRTeVO>

Backrow Setter Save - https://youtube.com/clip/UgkxW6sflu-5siQdg8jBi_5IGQT5wT1MJEMP

Legal back row attack. Why legal or illegal? -

<https://youtube.com/clip/UgkxHqByo3UKAZbDvU7CtgMBuLKBCrxHD2HZ>

Backrow Setter Attack Legal - <https://www.youtube.com/clip/Ugkxv-ywYZ0ic-ZAeQaDLzLunXU-b0nGrRc0>

Legal back row Setter Attack – Signal? - <https://youtube.com/clip/UgkxPOPqUMNYPbp-7ICV-8OIDZmGOU171gku>

(Presentation Notes for Libero Play) Incorporate a review 9.5.6 during the presentation during this section.

The first video shows the movement of the libero. Emphasize how the libero movement to cover during an attack places her in front of the attack line. This positioning can lead to illegal actions if the libero contacts the ball using finger action in front of the attack line and the next hit is attacked above the height of the net. Put emphasis on the need to have sirens go off any time the libero contacts the ball. The libero should light up in an official's mind like a neon sign anytime she contacts the ball and the official must know where the libero was on the court and what action she used to hit the ball. The clips move in a progression of legal play to illegal play. Emphasize the need to be especially vigilant of libero play if she makes the 1st contact.

Libero Play

Libero movt. into attack zone to “cover”

<https://youtube.com/clip/UgkxRZ8WHMogUIWidVBmF8A1TuAey7kB1OXN>

Legal Libero Action/Libero Movt. - <https://youtube.com/clip/UgkxedrwyRbSFufSq-TpYPZREYVZwTqOyT34>

Legal Libero Set-OB call? - <https://www.youtube.com/clip/UgkxV-RmuKeqd9ujjmc0b6AEVvXDO3hhC8Db>

Legal libero finger action set 2nd hit - <https://youtube.com/clip/UgkxuE4pCZZHunQMopOLT-PKVXgkU3pm0Ls8>

Illegal libero finger action set 2nd hit) - https://youtube.com/clip/Ugkx4TYZT8RnUCoF_4RM4JP4ySihWHua_bl6

Illegal Libero Set with finger 1st hit - <https://youtube.com/clip/UgkxsiagyZQ8-prBj8COnkHXjoMDPH2eNG7>

Illegal Libero Set with finger 1st hit - <https://youtube.com/clip/Ugkxk8c8dBXf33c3AzOCQa-JghRKU03eQzXS>

(Presentation Notes for Official's Call Sequences) There are specific sequences of signaling for officials during calls. The most commonly mistaken sequence is on a violation whistled by the R2. The R1 never repeats the violation signal when a net violation, a line violation, or an antenna violation is initiated by the R2. Also, the R1 should always wait for the R2 to finish his/her signals and signal the result of play just ahead of the R2. Clips 1 & 2 illustrate this. Clips 3 and 4 are pretty self explanatory, but serve as great examples. Clip 4 emphasizes should proceed when there is a substitution during a TO. The R2 does everything he/she would normally do to administer the end of a timeout except for giving back the court to the R1. After giving the TO's used to the R1, the R2 blows the whistle for a substitute. (The R1 should mirror the TO's used.) The R2 administers the substitution(s) and then gives the court back to the R1. Clip 5 illustrates how a captain conversation should be conducted by the R1. The R1 should never get off the stand when conferring with a player.

Official's Call Sequences

Textbook net violation sequence by R2 and R1 -

<https://youtube.com/clip/UgkxFBcGSMdIIUSop1ltd4ISa5it3O9faCgw>

Textbook R2 whistle on antenna fault on R2 side, no R1 fault signal -

https://youtube.com/clip/UgkxCd_qCx4yPaVHmdi83cPdbGyjK031YgdZ

Textbook R2 sub procedure when subs from both teams

https://youtube.com/clip/UgkxgFvjpf3DeRrzLWKwdMX_HBERYBnej6RT

Textbook substitution after a TO - <https://youtube.com/clip/UgkxGk85mZ3qtMFRxFfNllqzg5hxeY8H8Nbg>

Textbook R2 timeout with R1 follow - <https://youtube.com/clip/Ugkx0pPS2tDPwtj0BQMnuOkB-Raxkxfv4AQr>

Textbook convo with captain - https://youtube.com/clip/UgkxkKQ6C0rsT9YH2mMD4euXdvJl3Z4_2gis

R1 Pre-Match Responsibilities

- Be in uniform at the site of the match no less than 30 minutes before the start time.
- Examine the game ball(s) to make sure it meets all specifications – air pressure, etc.
- Inspect the court markings, net supports, antennas, R1 stand, and measure height of net.
- Establish nonplayable areas.
- Designate who the official scorer, libero tracker, timer, and line judges are.
- Review specific duties with the R2 and the line judges.

Pre-match conference with head coach and captain(s).

- R1 double whistle and raises a coin to notify coaches and captain(s).
- Have the players introduce themselves and then you introduce you and your R2.
- Go over any court marking and nonplayable areas that may be different.
- Talk about players standing at the end of the bench.
- Talk about fan sportsmanship and explain if they hear anything to come to the R2 and we will take care of it.
- Talk about only jewelry allowed if **POST Earrings**. No jewelry below the chin.
- Remind captains that only the captain on the floor may talk to the officials.
- Ask the coach if everyone is legally equipped. This means uniform and equipment.
- Conduct a coin toss between the head coaches and captains to determine which team shall have the choice of serving or receiving for the first set. Visitors call heads or tails first.
- Ask if there are any questions. Answer if they have any and if not, wish them all good luck and start warmups.
- Inform the scorer which team will serve first.

During the set, the R1 is the head official who shall:

- Have general supervision of officials.
- Make decisions on matters not specifically covered by the rules.
- Make the final decision when there is a disagreement between officials.
- In the spirit of good sportsmanship, promptly handle any unexpected situations.
- The R1 shall whistle, give signal match is over which will release players to move the net to shake hands (if the teams want to). The match becomes official when the R2 verifies the scores and initials the scoresheet.

R2 Pre-Match Responsibilities

- Be in uniform at the site of the match no less than 30 minutes before the start time.
- Assist the R1 in all pre-match duties, collect team rosters during the timed pre-match conference.
- Introduce yourself to the designated official scorer, libero tracker, timer, and line judges. Explain how you are going to enter substitutes, when you want a horn or the buzzer, and anything else you will need them to know so that everything will work smoothly at the table during the match.
- Verify the starting lineups have been entered correctly on the official scoresheet.
- R2 has the sole responsibility to record both teams in starting floor position on their lineup card.

Pre-match conference with head coach and captain(s).

- R1 double whistle and raises a coin to notify coaches and captain(s).
- R2 will collect the team rosters at this time.
- R2 shall listen to the R1.
- After R1 does the coin toss for serve/receive, the R2 shall write on lineup card who is serving first.

During the set, the R2 shall:

- Watch for overlapping on the RECEIVING team the moment of the serve.
 - Shall assist the R1 by ruling upon situations which are clearly out of the R1's view. If assistance is provided, it should be done with a visual, informal signal.
 - Mirror the R1's signal for each loss of rally/point, violation, replay/re-serve, or end-of-set.
 - Grant time-outs. End of time-outs – R2 double whistles at 45 seconds (R1 may whistle if R2 is occupied with bench issues) or if both teams are back on the court prior to the 45 seconds remaining. R2 ends the time-out having the scoreboard operator give a horn and R2 gives the number of time-outs used to the R1 and gives the court back. The R1 mirrors the time-outs used.
 - Initial the scoresheet after each set and for verification of the match results.
 - If a fifth set is needed, the R2 shall do the coin toss to see who serves/receives first.
- End of the Match:
- The match becomes official when the R2 verifies the scores and initials the scoresheet.

IGHSAU Volleyball Officials Headset Crew Communication Guidelines and Requirements

Headset use is voluntary and not mandatory:

- No referee should feel pressured to use them. Any use of headsets must be arranged in advance between partners.
- If in doubt, headsets should not be used.

During the match:

- The use of these headsets SHALL NOT replace any approved NFHS rules or IOWA adaptations mechanics, crew communication or the **discreet signals between R2 & R1**.
- Headsets SHALL NOT negate any responsibilities of the R2 to maintain a proper lineup card.
- Headsets are intended to ensure timely communication between officials and coach, as well as between officials only.
- All communication on the headsets must be directly related to the contest using only appropriate and professional language.
- Do not use any inappropriate language, derogatory statements, or comments in reference to any player, coach, fan, etc.
- Officials must keep communication short and to the point. Keep chatter and unnecessary comments off the devices.
- Between rallies, the R1 and R2 do not have to come together to communicate information to one another. Use the headsets and R2 move away from score table. What you may have to communicate to each other:
 - ✓ A conference regarding a specific rule.
 - ✓ A conference regarding a particular play.
 - ✓ Situations when both teams are substituting or when one team is requesting a timeout.
 - ✓ Request by the R2 for unsporting penalties to be applied to a team, coach, or player.
 - ✓ To provide explanation for delays or to pass along questions of a coach.
 - ✓ Libero service position

When providing help to your partner during a rally, keep the communication as simple as possible. Use only one word. Repeat the word three times. For example:

- Say no-no-no instead of "NO TOUCH"! If you say, "NO TOUCH" only one time, your partner may only hear "TOUCH"!
- **During a rally**, the R2 may communicate with the R1 to assist and expedite the ruling process. When communicating during the rally, the R2 should utilize simple verbiage in blocks of three. For instance:
 - ✓ Overhead pass in the front zone by the libero = "Hands, Hands, Hands"
 - ✓ Overhead pass by the libero behind the attack line = "Good, Good, Good"
 - ✓ Illegal back row setter = "Back, Back, Back"
 - ✓ Back row takes off on or in front of the attack line = "Back, Back, Back"
 - ✓ Back row player takes off behind the attack line = "Good, Good, Good"
 - ✓ Blocker reaching over = "Reach, reach, Reach"
 - ✓ Glancing touch on the block = "Touch, Touch, Touch"
 - ✓ A ball "out" on the R12's sideline (when the LJ may not have a good look) = "Out, "Out, "Out"
 - ✓ A ball "in" on the R12's sideline (when the LJ may not have a good look) = "In, "In, "In"
 - ✓ Successful pancake = "Good, Good, Good"
 - ✓ Unsuccessful pancake = "Down, Down, Down"
 - ✓ Potential four-hit violation = "Four, Four, Four"

Be careful of facial expressions and body language:

- A comment or conversation not having anything to do with the match might generate a response from your partner that is inappropriate.
- Small frowns or frowns can be misunderstood or misinterpreted by your partner or the players and coaches.
- Referee's need to learn to "talk through" your whistle during a rally. Practice this skill on your own.
- Always remember, the R1 will hear everything that is said to a coach and will also hear the coach at times.
- Between points, if the R1 and R2 need to communicate, it is a good idea to put a hand over the mouth to prevent "lip reading".

A good reminder to stay out of trouble using headsets:

- Please be careful what you say when speaking into the headsets. Most radio systems are NOT secure from the public. The safest approach would be "If you don't want it on the public address system, don't say it on the headset"!
- Visually laughing with your partner and everyone seeing it at **any time** during the match is not a practice to be used. Players and coaches' interpretations of this can cause problems that are not needed.

