

2026 Volleyball Officials Study Guide

NOTE: In the exam situations, Team S = serving team; Team R = receiving team. Additionally, LF = left front; CF = center front; RF = right front; RB = right back; CB = center back; LB = left back.

Number	Question	Answer A	Answer B	Answer C	Answer D	Your Answer	Rule Reference
1	At the moment of the serve, which statement about player positioning is not true?	All players, including the libero, shall be in the correct serving order.	All players, including the libero, are not required to be in the correct serving order.	No player, other than the server, may have any part of the body touching the floor outside of the boundary lines.	All players, except the server, shall be within the team's playing court and boundary lines.	2	6-4-3a, b
2	During service, three players from the serving team stand close together at the net, waving their hands above their heads, while the server serves the ball directly over them in a low flat trajectory.	This action should result in the loss of a rally/point awarded to the opponent.	The R2 tells the receiving team they should move if they want to see the ball.	The officials make no call unless the receiving team complains about the inability to see the server.	The timer sounds the horn, signaling the stoppage of play until the serving team spreads out and puts their arms below their heads.	1	6-5-2 PENALTY
3	During the pre-match conference, the head coach should give the team roster to which of the following game personnel?	The R1	The R2	The scorekeeper	The announcer	2	7-1-1a
4	Failure to submit a roster to the second referee at the pre-match conference results in the following penalty:	An administrative red card shall be assessed at the start of the set.	An unnecessary delay (administrative yellow card) shall be assessed at the start of the set.	Offending team is charged a time-out.	A loss of rally/point is given to the offending team.	2	7-1 PENALTIES
5	For illegal alignment, loss of rally/point is awarded to the opponent for:	Positioning, at the moment of a legal serve, of any player other than the server, outside the boundaries of the playing area.	Overlapping by players other than the server at the moment a legal serve occurs.	Both A and B.	None of the above.	3	6-4 PENALTIES
6	For uniform tops, which of the following are considered legal undergarments?	Unadorned of any color.	A color similar to the predominant color of the uniform - all teammates, other than the libero, match.	Solid black, white or gray - all teammates, other than the libero, match.	Both B and C.	4	4-2-1h(3)
7	How many feet of unobstructed space shall there be outside the boundary lines of the court?	5 feet	6 feet	10 feet	12 feet	2	2-1-3
8	Multiple contacts are permitted only for the following:	On any first team hit, whether or not the ball is touched by the block.	When the first ball over the net rebounds from one part of the player's body to one or more other parts in one attempt to block.	On the second team hit if the ball is next contacted by a teammate.	All of the above.	4	9-4-8c
9	Once a first referee signals for service, which of the following requests is permitted prior to the ball being served?	Libero replacement	Substitution	Time-out	None of the above	4	8-1-6

10	Team A is wearing multicolored uniform shorts including the libero. Which of the following is legal?	Four players wearing white visible spandex and two players wearing gray visible spandex under the shorts.	All players, including the libero, wearing black visible leggings under the shorts.	Three players wearing black visible leggings and three players wearing black visible spandex under the shorts.	Both B and C.	4	4-2-1i(2)
11	Team S has six players. After the set begins No. 6 is injured and is unable to play. Player No. 25 arrives, but is not listed on the roster. Player No. 25:	May enter the set without penalty.	May not play until the next set.	May be added to the roster and enter the set after the team is penalized with a loss of rally/point awarded to the opponent.	May enter the set only in the service position.	3	7-1-1 PENALTY 3
12	The first referee shall whistle and direct players to their respective end lines prior to the first set. What players are permitted to stand on their respective end lines?	Any rostered player.	Starting players only.	Starting players and libero only.	Non-starting players only.	1	5-4-3c(1)
13	The time period between the sets of a match shall be which of the following?	No more than three minutes	No more than four minutes	No more than one minute	None of the above	1	11-5-1
14	Unless state association rules determine otherwise, a match shall be declared a forfeit when:	A disqualified individual violates conduct rules following disqualification.	A team refuses to play when directed to do so by the first referee.	A coach is removed for unsporting conduct and no school personnel is present to assume responsibility for the team.	All of the above.	4	1-5-2
15	When a player changes uniforms due to blood or damage, the following is true:	If the number changes, the roster is corrected.	No penalty is assessed.	A loss of a time-out will be assessed to the offending team.	A and B are correct.	4-2-3 NOTE, 7-1 4	PENALTY NOTE
16	When requesting a substitution:	The head coach may verbally request a substitution.	The head coach may visually request a substitution.	A substitute from the bench may enter the substitute zone.	All of the above.	4	10-2-1a,b
17	When should a scoresheet be supplied to the officials' table?	At least 5 minutes before the match.	At least 10 minutes before the match.	At least 15 minutes before the match.	At least 20 minutes before the match.	4	3-3-1
18	Which of the following is true for substitution requests?	Substitution requests can be made prior to the start of the set.	Substitutions requests can be made during a live ball.	Substitution requests can be made by an assistant coach.	Substitution requests can be made by a player on the court.	1	10-1-4
19	Which of the following is true when calling time-outs?	They can be requested only by the head coach or playing captain.	They can only be called during dead balls.	They can be honored after the first referee has signaled for the next serve.	A and B are correct.	4	11-2-1
20	Which of the following statement(s) is true regarding the volleyball?	The volleyball shall include the NFHS Authenticating Mark.	The volleyball shall be spherical with a laceless molded cover.	The volleyball shall measure at least 21 inches but no more than 24 inches in circumference.	A and B are true.	4	3-2-1, 3-2-3
21	Which of the following statements is false regarding music and/or sound effects?	Music/sound effects are permitted prior to start of the set.	Music/sound effects are permitted during warm-ups.	Music/sound effects are permitted during play.	Music/sound effects are permitted during time-outs.	3	1-8

22	Which statement is correct regarding an unruly spectator disrupting the set?	The first referee gives a yellow card to the coach of the team for whom the fan is yelling.	The first referee approaches the spectator and tells the spectator to leave the facility.	The first referee suspends the set until the host management resolves the situation, then play continues.	The second referee approaches the spectator and tells the spectator to leave the facility.	3	12-3
23	A ball is out of bounds and becomes dead when it:	Touches the net cables or net not completely inside the antenna.	Touches or enters (from the direction of the court) an adjacent court scheduled for play.	Both A and B.	None of the above.	3	2-3d, g
24	A libero may:	Set the ball with a two-hand finger pass while standing on the attack line and have a team member complete an attack above the height of the net.	Replace any back-row player.	Attack a ball above the height of the net.	Serve in two different positions.	2	10-4-1a
25	A loss of rally/point can be awarded to the receiving team when Team S is serving if:	Team S commits an illegal serve.	Team S commits a service fault.	Team S is out of position on the serve.	All of the above.	4	8-2 PENALTIES
26	A match shall entitle each team to a maximum of:	Two time-outs per match.	Two time-outs per set.	Two time-outs in sets 1-4, three time-outs in set 5.	None of the above.	2	1-2-3
27	A net fault occurs while the ball is in play and:	When a player's loose hair touches the net.	There is dangerous contact by a player with the floor/wall cables, standards or first referee's platform.	When the force of a ball hit by an opponent pushes the net or net cables into the player.	All of the above.	2	9-6-7
28	A referee shall stop play when:	A ball is played over a nonplayable area and the player has a body part in contact with a playable area at the same time the ball is contacted.	The ball contacts a cable used to retract a ceiling-suspended net system.	The ball contacts any part of a backboard or its supports which is hanging in a vertical position, over the playable area.	Both B and C.	4	2-4-1d, e
29	A replay may be declared when:	A double whistle occurs on the serve.	A player intentionally serves the ball prior to the referee's signal.	The ball contacts a backboard hanging in the vertical position over a playable area, and in the judgment of the referee, the ball would have remained in play.	Both A and C.	4	9-8-1b & h
30	A served ball is a service fault and becomes dead when the ball:	Passes under the net.	Touches the server's teammate.	Touches the floor on the server's side of the net.	All of the above.	4	8-2-6
31	A volleyball match:	Consists of two teams of six players on a rectangular court.	Has a maximum of three minutes between sets unless an intermission is used.	Shall be forfeited when a team has fewer than six players to start the match, unless the state association determines otherwise.	All of the above.	4	1-1, 1-2-2, 1-5-4

32	Allowable electronic equipment for a player includes:	A wearable microphone clipped to the jersey.	A wearable camera/video device clipped to the jersey.	Headphones for direct communication with the head coach.	None of the above.	4	9-2-1
33	An assistant coach may stand in which of the following situations?	During a dead ball in the coaching zone when one assistant coach is already standing.	During a live ball to review the accuracy of the score with the second referee.	During a dead ball in the coaching zone if no other assistant coach is standing.	During a dead ball to request a time-out.	3	12-2-6
34	An illegal serve occurs when:	The served ball passes under the net.	The served ball touches the ceiling.	The served ball passes outside the antenna.	None of the above.	4	8-2-5
35	Assistant coaches, non-playing teammates and/or team attendants on the bench may not:	Stand to spontaneously react to an outstanding play by a player(s) of their own team.	Use props in bench celebrations.	Stand at the bench to greet a replaced player.	Go to a non-playable area to warm up for entry into set.	2	12-2-8m
36	Assistant officials include:	Scorer, first referee and line judges.	Libero tracker, line judges and scorer.	Line judges, second referee and timer.	None of the above.	2	5-1-1
37	At the end of the match the first referee shall:	Whistle, then give end-of-set signal.	Whistle and release the players.	Verify the score by initialing the scoresheet.	A and B.	4	5-4-4d
38	Barrettes and other adornments in the hair are legal if they:	Are less than 1 inch in length.	Do not increase risk to the player, teammates or opponent(s) and are securely fastened.	Match the color of the team uniform.	All are correct.	2	4-1-6a
39	Coaches and players are permitted to react in the following ways except:	Greet a player coming off the floor.	Spontaneously react to an outstanding play by members of their own team.	Question the referee's judgment on a call.	Request a substitution or a time-out.	3	12-2-6
40	During a serve, a tossed ball contacts a backboard or its supports hanging in a vertical position over the serving area. What is the correct call?	A re-serve.	An illegal serve.	A service fault.	Unsporting conduct.	2	8-1-6
41	If a net fault is whistled by the second referee, the second referee will:	Indicate the player committing the fault, then the nature of the fault.	Indicate the nature of the play.	Indicate the nature of the fault, then the player committing the fault.	First mirror the first referee.	3	5-2-1b
42	In the case of an injury/illness to the libero during the set and the libero cannot continue to play, the head coach is permitted to:	Replace the libero with any player on the bench.	Complete a legal libero replacement and request a substitution for another player on the court during the injury time-out.	Complete a legal libero replacement for the injured/ill player and may substitute for the replacement player.	Take as much time as needed to decide if the player can continue play.	3	11-4-1b
43	In the case of an injury/illness to the libero during the set and the libero cannot continue to play, the head coach may:	Complete a legal libero exchange, if two liberos are listed on the lineup.	Complete a legal libero replacement and request a substitution for the replacement player.	Complete a legal libero replacement and request a substitution for any player on the court	A and B	4	11-4-1b
44	Line judges shall:	Report to the first referee no less than 20 minutes before the scheduled start time.	Stand near the intersection of the left sideline and the end line.	Stand up on the referee's platform.	Both A and B.	4	5-9-1a, 5-9-2a & b

45	Players positioned in the front row at the time of service are allowed to:	Be in close proximity with another player when the ball is not served directly over them.	Raise their hands above the head during service.	Take action to prevent receivers from seeing the contact of serve.	Jump and wave arms while the ball is served over them.	1	6-5-1, 6-5-2
46	Starting in 2028, which of the following numbers on the uniform will be illegal?	20	43	04	33	3	4-2-4b
47	Team R's head coach calls a time-out to discuss with the R1 the call of an illegal back-row block on Team R. What is the correct ruling?	Illegal. The official's decision is final.	Team R will be charged with a time-out no matter the result of the review.	Team R will not be charged with a time-out if the decision is changed.	The coach will be penalized for questioning an official's call.	3	11-3-1
48	Team R's head coach requests and is granted a time-out to discuss with the first referee a possible incorrect decision during the dead ball immediately following the situation in which the possible incorrect decision occurred. What is the correct ruling?	Illegal. The official's decision is final.	Team R will be charged with a time-out no matter the result of the review.	Team R will not be charged with a time-out if the decision is changed.	The coach will be penalized for questioning an official's call.	3	11-3-1
49	The center line:	Must be continuous and 2 inches (or 5 centimeters) wide.	Must be solid.	May be shadow-bordered 2 inches (or 5 centimeters) wide.	Both A and C.	4	2-1-4, 2-1-4 NOTE
50	The coaching zone is defined by:	The area near the sideline between the attack line and the center line.	The libero replacement zone and the area beyond the end line and sideline extended.	The area near the sideline between the attack line and the end line.	Not a defined area.	2	2-1-9
51	The first referee is the head official who shall:	In the spirit of good sporting conduct, promptly handle any unexpected situation.	Make decisions on matters not specifically covered by the rules.	Have general supervision of officials.	All of the above.	4	5-4-3a(1), (2), (4)
52	The first referee signals for the serve. The server tosses the ball and it hits the backboard. What is the correct call?	A re-serve.	An illegal serve.	A service fault.	Unsporting conduct.	2	8-1-6
53	The first referee's platform must:	Be safe and stable.	Have a step stool on the platform.	Elevate the first referee's head between 2 and 3 feet above the top of the net.	Both A & C.	4	3-1-6
54	The following regarding a libero is true:	Two liberos may be designated per set.	Only one libero may be on the court at a time.	All liberos must appear on the lineup sheet.	All of the above.	4	6-4-2
55	The libero may:	Set the ball with a two-hand finger pass while standing on the attack line and have a team member complete an attack above the height of the net.	Replace any back-row player.	Attack a ball above the height of the net.	Serve in two different positions.	2	10-4-1a

56	The prematch procedure shall include:	The home team selecting its team bench.	A coin toss to determine who serves and who receives.	A conference conducted by the officials with only team captains.	Both A and B.	4	1-6-1, 1-6-2, 1-6-3
57	Uniform bottoms shall adhere to which of the following?	All teammates must wear the same style of uniform bottoms.	All must be the same single solid color.	Must clearly contrast from the uniform top.	None of the above.	4	4-2-2i
58	Uniform bottoms shall be which of the following?	Like-colored, with the exception of the libero.	Single solid color.	Clearly contrast from the uniform top.	None of the above.	1	4-2-2i
59	Unsportsmanlike conduct by a player includes but is not limited to:	Using profane or insulting language or gestures toward an opponent.	Spitting other than into the proper receptacle.	Using any part of a teammate's body or any object to gain physical support for advantage in playing the ball.	All are unsportsmanlike conduct.	4	12-2-9
60	What is it called when opposing players commit a rule violation at the same time?	A fault.	A double fault.	Multiple faults.	A double hit.	2	9-7-2
61	What is the appropriate penalty for non-playing teammates entering the court while the ball is in play?	Illegal player entry.	Illegal alignment.	Unsporting conduct.	None of the above.	2	6-4 PENALTIES 1c
62	When a team designates two liberos and one libero is disqualified while playing, the team:	May re-designate a new libero to maintain two liberos for the set.	Continues to play with one libero.	May not use a libero for the remainder of the set.	May not use a libero for the remainder of the match.	2	10-4-3d
63	When a team designates two liberos for the set and one is used as an exceptional substitution:	The team may re-designate a libero to maintain two liberos for the set.	Play will continue without a libero.	Play will continue with one libero.	None of the above.	3	10-4-3b
64	Which is considered unsporting conduct by a coach?	Abusing the re-serve rule.	Making any excessive requests designed to disrupt the set.	Disrespectfully addressing, baiting or taunting anyone involved in the contest.	All of the above.	4	12-2-8f, k, l
65	Which is NOT considered unsporting conduct for a coach:	Abusing the re-serve rule.	Making any excessive requests designed to disrupt the set.	Disrespectfully addressing, baiting or taunting anyone involved in the contest.	All of the above are considered unsporting conduct for a coach.	4	12-2-8
66	Which of the following are examples of legal uniform numbers?	The numbers are the same color as the uniform with a clearly contrasting border not to exceed 1/2 inch in width.	The numbers clearly contrast from the uniform and include a border not to exceed 1/2 inch in width.	The numbers clearly contrast from the uniform and do not have a border.	B and C are legal uniform numbers.	4	4-2-4c
67	Which of the following equipment must be padded?	Standards	Net support floor/wall cables	First Referee's platform	All must be padded.	4	3-1-3

68	Which of the following fault penalties are false?	For a double fault during a live-ball play, a loss of rally/point is awarded to the opponent.	For a double fault during a dead ball, the penalty is assessed against the serving team followed by the receiving team with both teams rotating.	For a simultaneous fault during a dead ball, all applicable penalties are assessed.	For a multiple fault, only one penalty is assessed (loss of rally/point).	1	9-7 PENALTIES
69	Which of the following fault penalties are true?	For a multiple fault, only one penalty is assessed (loss of rally/point).	For a double fault during a dead ball, the penalty is assessed against the serving team followed by the receiving team with both teams rotating.	For a simultaneous fault during a dead ball, all applicable penalties are assessed.	All of the above.	4	9-7 PENALTIES
70	Which of the following is a responsibility of the scorer?	Enter on the scoresheet the uniform numbers of the starting players in proper service order.	Notify the first referee during play when there is a discrepancy with the score.	Record libero replacements and substitutions.	Time the prematch warm-up period.	1	5-6-1c
71	Which of the following is incorrect concerning the net?	The net antennas shall be attached to the net in line with the outside edge of the sideline.	The height of the net shall be 7 feet, 6 inches for girls.	The height of the net shall be 7 feet, 11 5/8 inches for boys.	The net measured at the ends shall not exceed the standard height by more than 3/4 inch.	2	3-1-4, 3-1-5
72	Which of the following is not a duty of the second referee?	Assist the first referee by ruling upon situations clearly out of the view of the first referee by using visual, informal signals.	Signal at the beginning and at the completion of a charged time-out, how many time-outs each team has used.	Review specific duties and responsibilities with the line judges.	Initial the scoresheet after each set and for verification of match results.	3	5-5-1c
73	Which of the following jewelry is allowed?	Hoop earrings.	No jewelry is allowed.	Stud(s) or post(s) above the chin.	String or commemorative bracelets.	3	4-1-7
74	Which player is allowed to communicate with the referees during a game?	Any player on the team.	The libero only.	The playing captain designated by each team.	The team manager.	3	6-3-1