

# VOLLEYBALL OFFICIALS QUIZ



What should the first referee do to indicate that he or she is ready for the prematch conference?  
See question 14.

**REFEREE** | **NAS**

Sponsored by the National Association of Sports Officials and prepared by the editors of *Referee* magazine.

For each situation below, decide which answer is correct for NFHS, NCAA or USAV rules, which might vary. (Answers on last page.)

**1** Team A passes the ball and it partially enters the plane of the net. The ball is legally blocked by team B while simultaneously touched by the team A back-row setter. The team A setter is not reaching above the height of the net at the moment of contact. What is the appropriate decision for the referees?

- a. Illegal block by team A; point for team B.
- b. Reaching beyond the net/interference by team B; point for team A.
- c. Illegal attack by team A; point for team B.
- d. First team contact by team A; play continues.

**2** Three substitutes approach the substitution zone, and the second referee whistles to recognize the substitution request when the first substitute enters the zone. After authorizing the first substitute to enter the court, the second substitute enters the zone. After releasing the second substitute, the second referee realizes the third substitute has returned to the team bench since the coach did not want the additional substitution. What is the correct decision in this situation?

- a. No action is necessary provided there has been

no further delay to the resumption of play. The third substitute did not enter the substitution zone, so play should resume after the scorer has recorded the two substitutions.

- b. Since the third substitute approached the substitution zone with the other two, she or he is required to complete the third substitution.
- c. A delay sanction (USAV/ NCAA)/unnecessary delay (NFHS) must be assessed to the team if the third substitution is not completed immediately after the first two.

**3** A3 has a small towel tucked into her

uniform shorts. During a rally, the towel falls to the floor and presents a safety hazard. What action should the referees take?

- a. Whistle to stop play, and award the point to team B due to A3's unnecessary equipment.
- b. Whistle to stop play, indicate a replay, and allow A3 to retrieve the towel with no further repercussion.
- c. Whistle to stop play, indicate a replay, and assess a delay sanction to team A.
- d. Allow play to continue, hoping that the towel is not an issue for the remainder of that play.

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**4** Team A substitutes A9 for A11. After A9 serves two points, the scorer informs the second referee that A9 has already played in the set in a different position. A9 is preparing to serve the next rally. What is the correct action to be taken by the referees?

- a. Cancel the two points scored by team A while A9 was serving. Award a point and the service to team B for the illegal substitution and return A11 to the court for A9. Remove the substitution from the scoresheet.
- b. Cancel the two points scored by team A while A9 was serving. Award a point and the service to team B for the illegal substitution and assess a delay warning to team A.
- c. Award a point and the service to team B for the illegal substitution. Return A11 to the court for A9 and remove the substitution from the scoresheet.
- d. Assess a delay warning to team A. Return A11 to the court for A9, and remove the substitution from the scoresheet.

**5** After a timeout has been called, when is it permitted to end prior to the expiration of the full timeout?

- a. When the team that called returns to court and is ready to play.
- b. When teams have returned to the court but

continue to huddle since time remains on the clock.

- c. When both teams have returned to the court and are ready to play.
- d. All timeouts will last the full duration even when both teams are ready to play prior to the expiration of the timeout.

**6** A team has only one substitution remaining in the set. Two substitutes approach the substitution zone. How is that situation handled since only one substitute may enter the court?

- a. The first substitute to enter the substitution zone must enter the court and will be the only substitute permitted.
- b. The coach may select the substitute that he or she would like to have on the court. The remaining substitute must return to the bench.
- c. Neither substitute can enter since only one substitution request was permitted for the team.

**7** A4 is a back-row setter and is near the net next to a front-row teammate, A10. Team A passes the ball toward the plane of the net. A4 jumps to attempt to save the ball at the same moment A10, her front-row teammate, jumps to save the ball. Both players are reaching higher than the top of the net. The ball enters the plane of the net

where B7 legally attacks the ball. The ball hits A10 but does not touch A4. What is the correct decision for the referees?

- a. No fault has occurred since A4, the back-row player, did not touch the ball.
- b. That is a collective block, and since A4 is a back-row player, it becomes an illegal block even though she did not touch the ball.
- c. Since A4 was attempting to save the ball passed by her teammate, she is not considered a blocker. If the ball is hit back into her, it is considered the team's first contact.

**8** As teams take the court for the start of a set, the coach realizes that an incorrect player is listed in the starting lineup. The lineups have been recorded on the scoresheet, but the coach wants to change one of the starting players. What is the correct decision for the referees?

- a. Allow the coach to change the lineup and assess a delay sanction/unnecessary delay.
- b. Deny the coach's request to change the lineup until the first rally of the set has been completed.
- c. Allow the coach to change the lineup without sanction and without charging the team a substitution.
- d. Allow the coach to make the substitution following normal substitution procedures.

**9** Which of the following medical equipment is considered illegal?

- a. An insulin pump secured under the uniform shorts or shirt.
- b. A medical alert medallion worn on a chain beneath the uniform shirt.
- c. A heart monitor secured under a player's uniform shirt.
- d. A cochlear ear implant.

**10** Which of the following describes a play in which blockers may not contact a ball that is entirely on the opponent's side of the net?

- a. When simultaneously contacting the ball with the attacker.
- b. After the opponent's third team contact.
- c. After any attack-hit by the opponent.
- d. When, in the first referee's judgment, no member of the attacking team can make a legal play on the ball.

**11** Team A's first contact sends the ball into the plane of the net. Team A's back-row setter jumps to play the ball, and while reaching higher than the top of the net, contacts the ball simultaneously with an opposing blocker. What is the correct decision?

- a. Illegal (back-row) attack on team A.

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- b. Illegal (back-row) block on team A.
- c. Illegally reaching over the net by team B for interfering with the opponent's set.
- d. All play to continue, since the play is the same as a joust.

**12** The second referee sees A9 beginning to approach the substitution zone, so the second referee whistles to acknowledge a substitution request. Team A's coach immediately states that no substitution has been requested, and A9 does not enter the substitution zone. Which of the following statements is true?

- a. The substitution must be completed since the request was recognized by the second referee.
- b. Player A9 may return to the bench, and team A will be assessed an improper request.
- c. Player A9 may return to the bench, and team A will be assessed a delay sanction/unnecessary delay.
- d. Player A9 may return to the bench. No further action is necessary since the second referee's whistle was inadvertent.

**13** At the end of a rally, the referees notice that a player has blood on a kneepad. What action should the referees take?

- a. Require the player's team to take a timeout to address

the blood situation.

- b. Require that the player be replaced immediately by a substitute. The player cannot re-enter until the kneepad is removed or changed.
- c. Allow the player a reasonable amount of time to remove, replace or clean the blood-stained kneepad. If the blood situation cannot be resolved in a reasonable amount of time, a substitution should be made for the player until the issue is resolved properly.
- d. Allow the player to continue playing.

**14** For the prematch conference and coin toss, how does the first referee indicate to the teams that he or she is ready to conduct the meeting?

- a. The first referee approaches each team's bench to notify the team captain and coach (or representative/NCAA) to attend the pre-match conference.
- b. The first referee blows the whistle and raises both hands, cupped in a "C" shape, to call the captains to the conference and coin toss.
- c. The first referee double-whistles and raises a coin in the air to notify both teams that the prematch conference is ready to begin.

**15** A player attempts to save a teammate's errant pass by using an open

hand to reach for the ball. Upon contact, the hand is positioned under the ball, palm facing up. In which case is that underhand contact illegal?

- a. All underhand contacts with the ball are considered illegal.
- b. It is considered an illegal contact only if the ball spins off the hand/fingers during that action.
- c. Provided the ball is not caught/thrown (USAV/NCAA) and there is no prolonged contact (NFHS), no fault has occurred, and play should continue. The player's unusual technique or body position should not be used to judge the legality of the contact.
- d. Provided the ball only contacts the fingertips and not the palm of the hand, this contact is legal.

**16** Team B's third team contact hits the middle of the net, and the ball falls toward the floor of team B's court. As the ball is falling, A5 reaches below the net and catches the ball. A5 then tosses the ball to the next server for team A. What is the correct decision for the referees?

- a. A fault should be called against A5 for interference with team B's playing action.
- b. No fault has occurred since A5's action did not interfere with team B's play. A5 may be reminded that the ball should be allowed

to fall to the floor before retrieving it.

- c. No fault has occurred provided no team B player is in the vicinity of the ball. If a Team B player was near the ball, it is a fault.

**17** After playing the ball, A16 loses her balance and begins to fall toward the net. A13 grabs A16's arm to prevent her from falling into the net and committing a fault. What is the result of that action by A13?

- a. Play should continue. No fault has occurred since that action was after the ball had been played. It is only a fault to assist a player who is attempting to play the ball.
- b. A fault should be called against A16 since A13 assisted her during when she was playing the ball.
- c. A fault should be called against A13 for assisting A16 after she played the ball.

**18** What is the definition of a block?

- a. A play approximately arms length from the net only when the player's shoulders are square (facing) the net, whose hand(s) are raised above the head, contacts the ball near the top of the net in an attempt to prevent the ball from crossing the net, return the ball immediately, or deflect the motion of the ball.
- b. The action of a player(s) close to the net that deflects

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the ball coming from the opponent by making contact with the ball only when the ball is higher than the top of the net. A block may involve wrist action provided there is no prolonged contact.

c. The action of a player(s) close to the net that intercepts or deflects the ball coming from the opponent by reaching higher than the top of the net, regardless of the height of the ball when contact is made. Only front-row players are permitted to complete a block. A block may involve wrist action provided there is no prolonged contact.

**19** At the end of a timeout, team A continues to huddle at its bench. The second referee directs the team to return to the court to resume play, but the team remains in its huddle. What is the correct action for the second referee?

- a. Team A must forfeit the set.
- b. Team A is assessed an unnecessary delay and an additional timeout is charged to the team. If the team has used its allotted timeouts for the set, a loss of rally/point is awarded to their opponent.
- c. Team A is assessed a

delay sanction. The team must return to the court immediately or be at risk for further delay sanction(s).

**20** During a rally, the referees whistle faults simultaneously. The second referee indicates a blocker contacted the net, but the first referee whistled for an opposing attacker contacting the net. What is the correct decision in that situation?

- a. Since the second referee has primary responsibility for calling net faults during play, the first referee should accept

the second referee's decision.

b. Since the first referee may whistle any fault or over-rule another official's decision when appropriate, the first referee's call should take precedence over the second referee's call.

c. When faults by opposing players are whistled simultaneously, if it cannot be determined that one fault occurred before the other, a double fault has occurred and the rally is replayed.

d. A fault by the attacking team always takes precedence over a fault by their opponent when the faults occur simultaneously.

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# ANSWERS

**1**

**All - d**

(NFHS 9-5-1c, 9-5-4; NCAA 14.6.1 & 14.6.4; USAV 14.1.1 & 14.3)

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**6**

**All - b**

(NFHS 10-2, 10-3; NCAA 11.3.3.2.7; USAV 15.10.4)

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**11**

**All - b**

(NFHS 9-5-1-c Note; NCAA 14.6.1 Note; USAV 13.2.2, 13.2.3, 13.3.3, 14.6.2, 23.3.2.3d)

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**16**

**All - b**

(NFHS 9-6-4c, ruling; NCAA 15.1.3.2; USAV 11.2.1)

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**2**

**All - a**

(NFHS 10-2-3, 10-2 Pen.; NCAA 11.3.3; USAV 15.10.4)

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**7**

**All - b**

(NFHS 9-5-1c-3; NCAA 14.6.1.3; USAV 14.1.3, 14.6.2)

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**12**

**All - d**

(NFHS 10-2-1; NCAA 16.1.2, Officiating Techniques; USAV 8.2, Officiating Techniques)

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**17**

**All - a**

(NFHS 12-2-9g; NCAA 14.4.2.1; USAV 9.1.3)

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**3**

**All - b**

(NFHS 4-1-4; NCAA 11.4.1; USAV Techniques, Mechanics, Procedures - Point of Emphasis-7)

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**8**

**All - b**

(NFHS 10-1-4; NCAA 11.3.3.1; USAV 15.3.2)

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**13**

**All - c**

(NFHS 11-4-3; NCAA 11.3.7; USAV Guidelines for Dealing with Blood)

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**18**

**All - c**

(NFHS 9-5-1c; NCAA 14.6.1; USAV 14.1.1)

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**4**

**All - a**

(NFHS 6-4 Penalties 2; NCAA 10.3.2.3; USAV 7.7)

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**9**

**All - b**

(NFHS 4-1-Note, 4-1-6; NCAA 7.2.1, 7.2.4.2; USAV 4.5.1)

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**14**

**All - c**

(NFHS 5-4-1h; NCAA officiating techniques; USAV officiating techniques)

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**19**

**All - c**

(NFHS 9-9-1a, 11-2 Pen.; NCAA 6.3.1, 6.3.2.6; USAV 16.1.1)

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**5**

**All - c**

(NFHS 11-2-3; NCAA 11.2.2; USAV 15.4.1, 15.4.4)

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**10**

**All - a**

(NFHS 9-6-4; NCAA 14.6.4; USAV 14.3)

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**15**

**All - c**

(NFHS 9-4-5; NCAA 14.2.2; USAV 9.2.2)

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**20**

**All - c**

(NFHS 9-7-2; NCAA 8.1.1; USAV 6.1.2.2)

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