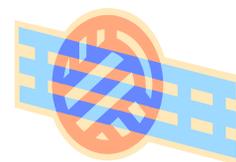


South Dakota High School Activities Association

2011 Volleyball Newsletter



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NEW SDHSAA WEBSITE AND ONLINE RULES MEETING AND TEST DEADLINE

As you all know by now, the SDHSAA has a new look to the website. If you have not taken a look at it please do so. There is a new process for completing you online meetings and online testing. If you have met these requirements, you will need to do so by August 31st, as the online meetings and testing window will close on August 31st at midnight. If you have not viewed the online rules meeting, and completed the online test, you will need to do so by this time. No exceptions will be made.



OFFICIALS: be sure you have also viewed the online MECHANICS MEETING!

HAIR FEATHERING, TINSELING, HAIR FLAIRS CONSIDERED ILLEGAL South Dakota Modifications

South Dakota volleyball players **WILL NOT** be allowed to wear feather hair extensions, hair flairs, tinseling, etc. in their hair during warm-up and competitions.

These are considered "adornments" and are longer than the 2 inches as specified by the SD Rule in the athletic handbook.

As a reminder pre-wrap is not allowed as a hair control device either.

Headbands (anything that goes around the head) when worn, must be black, white, or the predominant color similar to that of the torso of the uniform and must be the same color for all participants. (Excludes libero uniform) In other words, if one person wears a white headband, **ALL** team members (that choose to wear a headband) must wear white.



"Think Pink"



Many teams are hosting a "Think Pink" or "Dig Pink" volleyball event to raise money for "Cancer Awareness". Please keep in mind that all uniforms need to comply with the uniform rule. The color of the uniform may be pink, which would then allow pink headbands as well.

Remember, if ordering pink t-shirts for uniforms, the number placement needs to be legal and you need to follow all the manufacture logo requirements as well. No advertisements on the uniform! If you have someone sponsor a t-shirt, the sponsor's name would not be allowed on the jersey, however you could wear that shirt during warm-up. We do not have a sock rule, so pink socks would be acceptable for the evening, as would shoelaces.

Officials, pink whistles are acceptable. Otherwise, proper uniform is expected. You too, could wear a pink t-shirt during warm-up, but while officiating the match, proper uniform would be required.

A pink volleyball, or any combination thereof, would **not** be acceptable for competition. Should you have questions, please give me a call at 224-9261.

OFFICIAL'S UNIFORM

Some changes have taken place in the official's uniform this year. Black shorts will **NO LONGER BE ALLOWED** as acceptable wear for the uniform. Only the black slacks/pants will be acceptable. South Dakota has also adopted a long sleeve white polo shirt for those gymnasiums that have a tendency to be a bit cooler. This shirt will be very similar to the short sleeved polo shirt already worn. No other sweaters, turtlenecks or other means of long sleeves will be acceptable under the uniform top. If you would like to wear long sleeves, you will need to purchase one from your local sporting goods dealer.

CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT

South Dakota Codified Law now requires all coaches in grades 9-12 to view the "Concussion In Sports-What You Need To Know" course available on the NFHSlearn.com website. We have a link set up on our home page to view this course. If you as a coach have not viewed that course, please sign in to that website, view the 20 minute course and print the certificate of completion to verify you have viewed the course. Make sure you give that certificate to your Athletic Director to keep on file. This will be a yearly requirement as stated in the SDCL. Officials, since you are the ones sending them out of the game, it is important that you are able to recognize the signs, symptoms and behaviors consistent with a concussion. Please log on to the website and view the course as well.

The role of the official during the contest is to simply identify any signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion if an injury occurs. If you identify any signs, symptoms

or behaviors, it is your job as an official to direct the player out of the set and let the coach/trainer know that "I have observed these signs, and I think you need to take a look at the player #". Please make notation of that in the scorebook, that the athlete was removed for concussion management purposes in the comment section. Note the player # and what the score was at that time and be sure it is recorded in the score book. After that it becomes the responsibility of the coach, school and/or appropriate health care professional. Each school should have adopted policy to identify who those "appropriate health care professionals" might be. The athlete will not be allowed to return to play until the form has been signed by that appropriate health care professional that the school has deemed responsible for making those decision. You (as an official) do not need to see written documentation from said professional. The official is "expecting" that the coach/school has taken appropriate measures to allow the athlete to return to play. Simply document when the athlete returned to play, and continue to observe the athlete. If you see further signs/symptoms, you would again direct them to the coach and out of the set. I cannot emphasize enough, "When in doubt, sit them out!" Please take the 20 minutes to view the course. It is free and can be found at www.nfhslearn.com

TEAM HUDDLES

There has been a clarification on the court protocol in dealing with TEAM HUDDLES. When the players are whistled onto the court to begin the match they are to go DIRECTLY to their starting position. No team huddles will be allowed! The R2 will check the line-up, authorize the libero entrance into the set (if using one), roll the ball to the server and the match will begin. This procedure will be followed between sets as well. If there is a delay the official's should call an unnecessary delay and charge the offending team with a time-out. The match I saw this past weekend, the coaches and officials did a great job of managing the procedure and the match moved along nicely. Great job!



PLAYER EQUIPMENT/ACCESSORIES MODIFICATION

Coaches & officials are reminded that modification of player equipment/accessories or uniform (due to medical, special needs or religious reasons), pending approval, must have a letter of authorization from the SDHSAA office. (Examples might be, but are not limited to: artificial limb, hearing transmitter, heart monitor, insulin pump, etc.) Coaches will be responsible to have this letter with them and shall be made available to the referees at or prior to the pre-match conference. I have had several requests and the waiver letter will be on official SDHSAA letterhead.



LINE JUDGE VIDEO and TRAINING ASSISTANT OFFICIALS

Assistant officials include the scorekeeper, libero tracker, timer and 2 line judges. I have put together a line judges training video that can be found on our website. It is a short 10 minute clip reviewing the duties of a line judge. Volleyball officials should not have to train assistant officials when they get to a match. They should simply review a few details of what they expect from you and answer any questions you may have. Coaches, please work with your athletic director to identify the number of assistant officials that will be needed during the season. Secure these individuals and train them in their duties, well in advance of the contest.



HEAT TIME-OUTS

In the early stages of volleyball when the weather is so warm and gymnasiums are not air conditioned, remember that there is an option to take HEAT TIME-OUTS. The procedure would be as follows:

If conditions are unbearable, the time between sets within the match may be extended from 3 minutes to 4 minutes. The officials and the coaches shall make this decision. If there is a disagreement as to taking extra time or not, the final decision rests with the match officials. My suggestion if the coaches disagree is to err on the side of safety and take the extra minute between sets.