



Jo Auch
Assistant Executive Director
South Dakota High School Activities Association

WELCOME BACK/WHAT DOES THIS SEASON LOOK LIKE?

I know everyone is off and running with another exciting season underway. We are all thankful for the opportunity to have had a season last year and we are hopeful, even with the threat of the Covid-19 Delta variant, we will be able to complete our season as normally as possible.

With that being said, we are going back to our normal protocols for the season *with the exception of switching team benches* and I will cover that later in the newsletter. I would just like to remind everyone, that even though we are beginning our season without Covid protocols in place, we still need to be cautious in our contests. Remind your athletes to continue to wash/sanitize hands often, socially distance when possible and avoid large gatherings when you can. These are not mandated, but would be helpful to utilize as we try to get through the season with these precautions.

SDVBOA CLINIC

Special thanks to all who attended the July Clinic with Joan Powell as our guest clinician. I am hopeful that everyone walked away from the clinic refreshed and renewed for the upcoming season and will take the information provided to us by Joan and apply it for each contest we work moving forward.

Officials, if you attended the clinic for ALL SESSIONS on Friday evening and all day Saturday, the only requirement you need to complete yet is the ONLINE TEST. If you were unable to attend ALL SESSIONS on Friday evening and all day Saturday, you received NO CREDIT for the Clinic and must complete all of the necessary requirements for the year which include online rules meeting, online mechanics meeting, online test, region meeting and jamboree (if needed).

ONLINE RULES MEETING, MECHANICS MEETING AND TEST

If you have not yet watched the rules meeting, mechanics meeting (officials only) and passed your online test, you need to do so **PRIOR to August 31st at midnight** or you will be fined for missing a requirement.

WAIVER LETTERS

Coaches, if you have athletes that are in need of special equipment or if you have an athlete that has a medical condition that warrants special equipment, be sure to contact me with the request for the waiver granting permission for such items to be worn during the contest. Officials should not be put in the position of having to determine whether an athlete will be able to play or not based on a special accommodation that needs to be made by rule.

STATE TOURNAMENT

The State Tournament will be held in Rapid City at the new facility known now as the Monument in the Summit Arena on November 18-20. The SDHSAA will reserve rooms for the 24 teams that qualify for the tournament.

HEAT TIME-OUTS

Heat time-outs may be utilized in the early part of the season due to the climate and/or lack of air conditioning in some gymnasiums. Officials will need to discuss the necessity during the pre-match conference PRIOR to the start of the match. If the decision is made to take the heat time-outs, you simply add one minute to the time between each set making it four minutes instead of three minutes. Officials will need to instruct the timer of that change prior to the start of the match.

TEAM BENCHES (NO SWITCHING BENCHES BETWEEN SETS)

If anything positive arose from Covid, we learned that we liked the idea of remaining on the same bench throughout the entire match, unless there is a clear, distinct disadvantage on one side of the net or the other. AA schools will not have to worry about that, but at the Class A and B level there may be a gym or two around the state that may need to switch benches. That will be up to the officials and coaches to determine at the prematch conference. If a coach brings a distinct disadvantage to the attention of the officials, AND the officials agree there is a disadvantage to the team on that side of the net, then we will switch benches after each set.

Bottom line is teams will remain on the same side of the court for the match, unless there is a clear, distinct disadvantage on one side of the net or the other.

PREMATCH CONFERENCE

The prematch conference is conducted by the first referee and second referee, standing together facing the court. The conference shall take place before the timed warm-up and conclude with the coin toss. The head coach and captain(s) from each team shall attend. Keep the conference brief and include, but not be limited to the following:

1. Introduce captains, coaches, officials.
2. Verify home team has selected its bench.
3. Second referee collect team rosters from coaches.
4. Explain ground rules, such as non-playable areas, vertical backboard etc.
5. Review rules regarding hair devices and jewelry.
6. Verify with head coaches that all players are wearing legal uniforms and equipment
7. Remind floor captains that they may request a time-out or a line up check from the playing floor and may ask for clarification on a call (not judgment call) and they may confirm the server.
8. Remind them that we will not be switching benches throughout the match (unless disadvantage is noted).
9. Ask second referee if they have anything to add.
10. Conduct the coin toss. Visiting team calls the flip with the winner of the toss choosing serve or receive.
11. Remind everyone of the expectation of good sportsmanship and wish them good luck.
12. Second referee instructs the timer when to start the clock for the timed warm-up.

SUBMISSION OF ROSTER AND LINEUPS - PENALTY FOR LATE SUBMISSION CHANGE (RULE 7-1-4 PENALITIES, 9-9-1B)

We are returning to roster and lineup protocols as they were precovid.

- Rosters are **due to the second referee (not the score table)** during the prematch conference. Changes to the roster may be made without penalty until 10 minutes remain on the pregame clock.
- Lineups are **due to the second referee** no later than two minutes prior to the end of the timed prematch warmup, and then no later than one minute remaining in the timed interval following each set. (Rule 7-1-2a).
- **New penalty:** If the head coach submits a lineup after two minutes remain on the pregame clock, an unnecessary delay (administrative yellow card) is assessed at the start of the set. However, if lineup is not submitted by the end of the timed prematch warmup or interval, the penalty will escalate to a subsequent administrative card (red) which results in point/loss of rally. This penalty now matches what was done with the roster penalty last year and will lessen the penalty for a clerical mistake.

WARM UP

Remember, only rostered personnel for that match will be allowed to participate in warm-up on the floor. This would include players who are rostered to play in that match, statisticians, student managers and head and assistant coaches. Everyone must be in proper footwear to participate in the warm-up except for coaches. Let's make sure we take care of this early in the season so we don't have problems with it.

HANDSHAKES

Handshakes at the completion of the match may take place at the net as we had done in the past. Sportsmanship is always a good thing and seeing teams congratulate one another at the end of the match is one thing I look forward to seeing again!

CONTRASTING COLOR OF THE LIBERO JERSEY

Remember, teams that have uniforms with school colors such as purple and black, maroon and black, royal blue and black, dark green and black, etc. will not be allowed to use those color combinations, as they do not CLEARLY CONTRAST with the jersey colors. The grace period is over! Officials, if teams wear these combinations, contact me immediately and I will discuss with the school.



OFFICIAL'S QUICKTIP

If you are working on the technique of getting to the side at fault at the end of each rally as the R2, remember the arm signaling the team that **won the rally** should be pointing in the direction of the pole. **If you are not pointing in the direction of the pole, you are standing on the wrong side of the court.**

Best of luck to all as we start another great year of Volleyball. I wish you all the best, as teams and officials.

Always, always, always..... practice good sportsmanship and bring the "BEST OF YOU" to each contest in which you participate.

Questions: Contact Jo Auch @ jo.auch@sdhsaa.com