

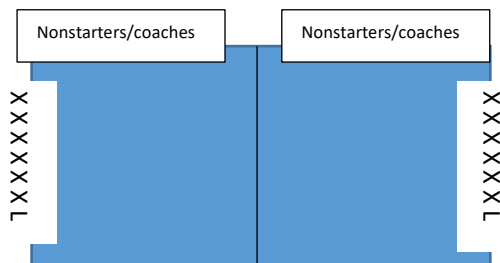


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PREMATCH PROTOCOL AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are starting to see more “creative ideas” for team introductions (which I have no problem with), but want to give the same opportunities to all.

When we announce the starting lineups, we know that the 6 (7) players that are starting the match are out on the end line for team introductions. SOME teams have the nonstarters that line up on the sideline instead of back by their team bench. I am not opposed to that at all as long as the nonstarters stay on the sideline during the introductions and we don’t have starter running over and giving high fives etc, when they are introduced. Then the starters will take their place on the floor upon the whistle of the R1 and the nonstarters will head back to their team bench area. I think this format is fine and wanted to make sure teams/coaches know it is acceptable.



TOURNAMENT MATCH FORMAT OPTIONS

If teams wish to count the matches toward seed points in South Dakota, matches may be played using 2 of 3, or 3 of 5 sets for tournament play.

1. If using the 3/5 format, sets are played to 25 points with the deciding set being played to 15 points (no cap)
2. If using the 2/3 format, sets are played to 25 points with the deciding set being played to 25 points (no cap)

REMINDER: All matches played for seed points must be complete matches, either 3/5 or 2/3, played to regulation points as listed above.

Exception: Out-of-state tournament matches played to a different tournament format (number of points, still playing 2/3 or 3/5 match format) will be counted toward seed points just as any other match throughout the season. Some states use different formats with the deciding set. Keep in mind that tournaments played in SD, if playing the best of 3, the final deciding set must be played to 25 to count toward seed point!

DUAL MATCHES: All matches considered duals MUST be played 3/5 set matches played to 25 points (no cap) with a 15-point deciding set (no cap).

TRIANGULARS: A triangular counts as TWO DUAL matches on the match limitations and must be played to the 3/5 format with the deciding set going to 15 points (no cap).

“WHEN IN ROME, PLAY BY THOSE RULES”

This may sound strange, but I get asked often, when we go out of state to Nebraska, or North Dakota, whose rules do we play by? I always say, when in another state, you may play to their rules as some states have modifications that they use. When they come to SD, we would expect them to play by SD rules. So “when in Rome, play by their rules.” We would ask that we always follow the 7 set limit whether we are in or out of state for South Dakota teams. If another state does not have a set limit and we are in their state, we (SD) **would still have to abide by that rule for safety purposes.**

SECOND REFEREE’S VIEW

This was a good read in Referee.com (below is my paraphrased version) on what the R2’s might consider when officiating.

Second referees have much to focus on. Their duties and responsibilities are listed in Rule 5-5. Much of their responsibilities during play deal with centerline and net violations. However, when second referees glue their eyes to the net during rallies, hoping to catch a net or centerline violation, they can lose sight of other things happening on the court. Focusing on the net isn’t a second referee’s only responsibility. The second referee should also be aware of playing actions and faults away from the net. It is important that R2’s open up their field of vision to do their job properly.

Some of the R2’s responsibilities involve helping the first referee with four hits, back row attacks/back-row blockers, libero actions, pancakes, and plays when the R1’s view is obstructed by another player. When action is not at the net, the R2 should expand their vision to help with other actions listed prior and then as the action comes to the net, the R2 should focus on the net and centerline.

Before each serve, you should be on the receiving team’s side and look for illegal alignment/overlapping. As play develops, you will transition to the blocking team’s side of the net and focus on the area of the net where the ball crosses.

Second referees should be diligent to assist the first referee with calls, keeping in mind that they do not make ball handling calls. The R2 may assist in giving indiscreet signals if they felt there was a ball handling error, but the ultimate decision on ball handling calls rests with the R1. Take in everything occurring on the court. Transfer those eyes over to the action and anticipate what might happen next. Sometimes it’s necessary to look through the net directly at the playing action.

As the attack unfolds, watch the play develop, locating potential hitters and blockers, not just keeping eyes on the net. Focus on the blockers without ignoring the offensive players. Don’t be a ball watcher as the ball crosses the net. Keep your eyes focused at the net/center line (watching from the top-where hitting action takes place all the way to the bottom, where the potential for centerline violations might occur) until no player at the net can commit a fault. When all is clear, re-center your focus to the ball while transitioning sideways to the blockers’ side with minimal smooth movements. Be in position before the second team contact and start the process all over again with a broad view to observe the entire playing action develop.

HAIR ADORNMENTS

Rule 4-1-6 states:

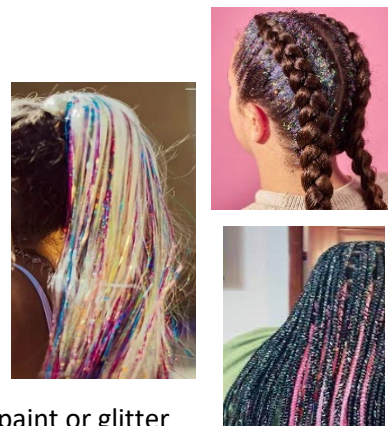
Head and hair devices must adhere to the following:

Hair control devices and other adornments in the hair that are securely fastened and do not present an increased risk to the player, teammates or opponents are allowed.

We are starting to see some kind of tinsel/shiny adornments in the hair that may or may not be braided in the hair similar to the picture on the right. As stated in the rule above, as long as they are fastened securely to the hair, these would not be an issue. They would be similar to a hair extension.

I know some may reference rule 4-1-8 which states: Players shall not wear body paint or glitter **ON** their hair, face, uniform or body.

This means that they cannot take glitter/body paint and put it **on** any of the above. The hairpieces we are seeing are woven **INTO** the hair or added to the hair like an adornment. Unless it is something that is causing a residue on the floor as a result (glitter falling off) or it falls out of the hair repeatedly, we would consider it legal.



JEWELRY REMINDER Rule 4-1-7

I think we need to be diligent in “being attentive” to these things during the prematch warmup since this is new this year. What I think may be happening is players have heard that jewelry is allowed, **and are forgetting the part that is ONLY SMALL, SECURED JEWELRY (STUD OR POST) that is ABOVE THE CHIN!** They need to understand that this does not mean that any type of **hoop earring** is acceptable above the chin, or that necklaces or wrist jewelry are legal, as they are not.

I have seen many matches where officials are asking the coach to visit with a player about hoop earrings or necklaces (another common one I am seeing). Coaches, be sure to remind your players of what is legal and what is not. We certainly would not want to have to penalize for something of this nature.

OCTOBER CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and many schools participate in some type of “awareness” during the month of October. Please keep in mind that if you are ordering pink uniforms, the uniforms must comply with the NFHS Rule codes. Contrasting colors need to be used for the two jerseys. A pale pink and white jersey would not be contrasting colors. We do not make exceptions for the color of the volleyball. The blue/gray/white ball must remain in use.

Officials may use pink whistles during the month of October. Should you have any questions about the event as to what is allowable or not, please feel free to contact me.

SPECTATOR ETIQUETTE DURING VOLLEYBALL MATCHES

It is proper etiquette if the volleyball rolls or is hit into the student section/fan base that you simply retrieve the ball and **ROLL IT** onto the court, preferably to a line judge or R2 and they will get to the proper side or server. Fans should **NEVER** throw a ball in the air across the net. Many players are not looking and the thrown ball certainly could hit someone and cause injury. So, if a ball come into the stand, simply gather the ball and gently roll it back out on the court, or roll it to a line judge/R2. Coaches, please visit with your student bodies and fan base about this procedure, as we certainly do not want anyone to get hurt as a result.

