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### ONLINE RULES MEETING, MECHANICS MEETING AND TEST

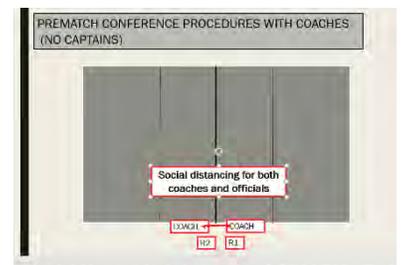
Everyone should now be able to log on to the SHDSAA website and view the test questions that you may have missed on the exam. To do this, you will need to go to the log in zone (either officials or school) click on online exams, then go to your completed exams and it will show you the test with the correct and incorrect answers. The rules and mechanics meetings are also available on the Volleyball page of the website for reference as the season goes along.

### WARM-UP SAFETY

During the 15-minute warm-up, I want to remind everyone that only rostered people should be out on the court. Coaches, stats people, managers and people in uniform are the only ones allowed on the court. **Only rostered athletes in uniform should be the ones actively participating in warm-up.** Stats, and managers are allowed to be shaggers (with no more than 4 student managers/stats out helping with the warm-up). Keep in mind the idea is to limit the amount of unnecessary people out on the floor for safety purposes. Officials need to be conscientious of this protocol for contests. It is for the safety of all concerned.

### PREMATCH CONFERENCE

The prematch conference should be taking place just on the outside of the court by the R1 stand. I would ask that we move away from the warm-up space on the court and move just outside the stand so we do not have balls hitting you while you are trying to complete the prematch conference. Use commons sense in determining where that location should be by the R1 stand. Remember officials, you need to find out how many are on the roster at that time and be sure to “count heads” prior to the 10 minute mark so we can ensure the roster is correct.



### OFFICIAL'S EVALUATION

Reminder, that we are NOT doing officials evaluations this year. I honestly believe that everyone has enough on their plate with fighting Covid-19 concerns that we do not need added responsibilities of completing these this year. We will reevaluate this for next year.

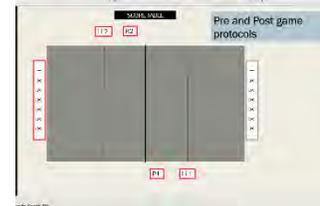
### WAIVERS

Remember, if you have an athlete that is in need of a special “permission” to compete in the contest, please contact me at the [jo.auch@sdhsaa.com](mailto:jo.auch@sdhsaa.com) and request a waiver for the player to participate. Plan so we don't have situations that are uncomfortable for athletes, coaches and officials.

## **COURT PROTOCOL (JV and Varsity)**

Pre-match ceremonies generally follow the timed warm-ups for varsity contests.

The introduction process has changed a bit this year. If teams are being announced the starters should go to the endline for that announcement. If teams are not being announced, (whether JV or Varsity) starters should still go to the endline and await the signal from the R1. The first referee whistles and signals the players to enter the court. Libero will take their place on the sideline. Players will no longer go to coach huddle prior to the start of the match. R2 will check the line-ups, authorize the libero exchange and play will begin. Obviously, in the lower level matches, the starters will just line up on the endline and await the whistle to enter the court. Line judges will already be in place in their corner for lower level contests.



## **LINE JUDGES SWITCHING SIDES**

Since we are no longer switching sides of the court after each set, I have been asked the question if line judges can switch sides? The simple answer is no. We would like the line judges to stay on the same side for the same reason as the players. Officials should get an understanding from their line judges experience and place them accordingly at the start of the match. R1 should do the assigning of the line judges and place the line judge with the most experience on the R2's sideline.

## **LINE-UP**

I have heard of several "creative" ways to handle the line-ups being turned in to the table by the coaches. I am not certain there is a right and wrong way to do it as long as we are keeping in mind that the whole idea is to limit exposure for the R2, the table personnel and coaches. That is why I suggested placing a separate line-up card at the table for each set by tearing off the end. Some coaches have opted to put all 5 line-ups in at once and leave it at the table. Some have made a larger line-up card and laminated it and then place one for each set played at the table and collect the laminated cards after the match. That way they have them for each match moving forward.

There really is not a right way or wrong way to do this as long as the contact is limited and we continue to limit exposure for all. We are finding out with all things Covid, we need a starting point and then simply try to improve things as we go along.

## **MASKS- PLEASE! PLEASE! PLEASE!**

**I again, STRONGLY ENCOURAGE and HIGHLY RECOMMEND that officials wear masks to each competition, and that coaches and players not actively participating in the contest wear masks also.** I am hearing that some teams are doing a GREAT job in wearing masks and doing their part in helping us to get to the end of the season, but I am also hearing of those teams that are not. I certainly hope that we are not jeopardizing the season because we simply don't think it can happen to us! Lead by example and help us get through this season!

## **SPORTSMANSHIP (NEW PROCEDURE)**

It appears that we have lost one of the best parts of the contest in showing good sportsmanship by not being able to shake hands after the contests. I think it would be nice if we could find a way to express that good sportsmanship by each team walking to the 10 foot line and "raising a hand" (as in a "air" high five) and by saying good game. We are not physically making contact, but just a nice gesture and expression to say replace the handshakes and acknowledge a great contest! So when the official directs you to your benches, each team would walk forward to their own 10 foot line and raise a hand and say good game! Something so simple, but means so much.

## **THANK YOU**

Thank you all for your suggestions, patience and understanding as we try and navigate this pandemic. I appreciate all your efforts in making this season a success.