



The NFHS Volleyball Rules and Case Book/Manual are to be used in all cases except those outlined as officially exempted by the WIAA/WOA. All changes in this document are approved by the WIAA Executive Director and the WOA Commissioner. All exceptions to the NFHS Volleyball Rules and Case Book Manual must be approved by the WIAA and WOA prior to use by any Board. In-season interpretations/modifications may be made by WIAA and/or WOA to deal with questions that may arise during a season. These interpretations/modifications will be reviewed prior to the next season to determine whether to include in the exceptions.

### I. Appearance and Uniform

- a. Officials should maintain a neat physical appearance
- b. It is imperative each official have a clean and neat looking uniform
- c. The following are acceptable shirts that may be worn:
  - c.i. White polo shirt—Unisex or ladies style
  - c.ii. White long-sleeve polo shirt—Unisex or ladies style
  - c.iii. White v-neck sweater with white short-sleeve polo shirt
  - c.iv. White ½ zip sweatshirt with white short-sleeve polo shirt
  - c.v. White vest with white long-sleeve or short sleeve polo shirt
  - c.vi. White crewneck sweatshirt with long or short sleeve polo shirt
- d. The WOA patch must be worn on the RIGHT CHEST of a short or long sleeve polo shirt, v-neck sweater, sweatshirt, or vest.

**NOTE:** A local Board logo is acceptable on the left chest but not a commercial logo such as the Nike swoosh, Mizuno, etc
- e. For first year officials, there is no requirement to wear apparel with “Volleyball-Certified Official” on it. **For those officiating post-season matches as the R1 and/or R2**, “Volleyball Certified Official” is required to be on the appropriate shirt, either short or long sleeved polo. **All** officials officiating at a State tournament will be required to wear the “Volleyball Certified Official” apparel.
- f. Pants are navy blue with an allowable navy blue or black belt. Navy blue shorts (not lycra/spandex) are allowed when the outside temperature is 75 degrees or above. There is no requirement that both officials be dressed identical. Wearing shorts should only be done when deemed appropriate for the environment and does not detract from the professional appearance of the officials. Faded blue pants (i.e. Dockers) are not acceptable. Pants will be clean and in good repair. If pants have loops then a black or navy belt with an unobtrusive buckle must be worn.
- g. Shoes will be 90% white and clean. Socks must be white.
- h. Local boards can decide to use pink whistles during the month of October and pink shirts for specific Breast Cancer Awareness events at a match.
- i. Conspicuous jewelry is not allowed but a ring and/or discreet earrings may be worn.

### II. Rules By State Association Adoption

- a. Due to the number of schools interested in hosting a special activity between the second and third sets of the high school varsity volleyball match, NFHS volleyball rule 11-Section 5, page 43, can be modified provided the following conditions are met:
  - a.i. The athletic director at the host school must request permission from the WIAA at least one week prior to the first special activity. Approval may be granted for all regular season home matches. Cindy Adsit (cadsit@wiaa.com) is the administrator for volleyball.
  - a.ii. The intermission between the second and third sets may be extended to a maximum of five (5) minutes for special activities, provided home management has properly notified the visiting team prior to the start of the match.
  - a.iii. The time period between all other sets of the match shall be no more than three (3) minutes.



- a.iv. Unnecessary delay shall be charged if the time period between sets is extended (other than the five (5) minutes as approved between the second and third sets).

### III. State Mechanic Exceptions

Currently, there are no state exceptions to mechanics

### IV. Rules Interpretations

- a. Substitution Request Clarification: Substitution requests are made one at a time by having the substitute enter the substitution zone. If multiple substitutions are desired, the coach will send them one at a time. Multiple substitutions will be administered with no delay in returning to play.
- b. Libero Tracker: In the event the host school does not use a libero, they are not required to provide a libero tracker. If the visiting school uses a libero, they will provide a libero tracker to sit at the score table.
- c. Can the head coach stand after being sanctioned? If a head coach receives a card, while he/she can stand to take care of other coaching responsibilities, he/she cannot stand up to coach at any time (except during a timeout or between sets), the same restrictions as the assistant coach.
- d. Definition of legal headbands: Sequins that are sewn on are legal whereas those glued on are illegal. Nowhere are hard plastic headbands that slip over the top of the head mentioned as being legal. And, in fact are not since they are NOT soft material. Unless a player can take their "headband" and scrunch or squish it up in their hand then it does NOT qualify as "soft" material and is therefore illegal. This seems to be the most convincing way to clearly describe the intent of the rule.
- e. Checking under a band-aid or tape for jewelry: Referees DO have the authority to ask if they have cause to believe that the band-aid or tape is covering jewelry. The coaches are responsible to insure that the players meet all conditions of the rule (which includes no jewelry), but if the official sees jewelry, then appropriate action is required. If an official suspects that the player is attempting to hide jewelry with a band-aid or tape, then the official can ask to see it. Please remind the officials to use discretion.
- f. Jewelry - wearing plastic spacers in ears: What is the rule regarding the little rubber/plastic spacer girls are using these days in place of their earrings? They are **NOT** legal according to NFHS rules. Officials cannot overlook this rule as it is a liability issue.
- g. Proper Footwear: 4-2-6 specifies that "appropriate playing shoes shall be worn." In the best interests of the safety, all students must be wearing "appropriate footwear" and may not be wearing or listening to electronic devices whether playing on the court, warming-up on the sidelines, shagging balls, or helping players to warm-up on or near the court. This rule will not apply to coaches.

NOTE: It is reasonably safe to assume that adult coaches are capable of looking out for themselves; however it is equally reasonable to assume that we should create a warm-up environment that is safe for all players regardless of whether they are varsity or sub-varsity players, starters or substitutes. WIAA and WOA are opting to err on the side of caution.



## WIAA/WOA Addendum to the NFHS Rules and Case/Manual

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EXAMPLE: If a person shagging balls is wearing flip flops, or is listening to an iPod, either the R1 or the R2 shall inform the person to leave the area and return only when appropriate playing/court shoes are worn and the electronic device has been removed.

### **V. Points of Emphasis (in addition to the NFHS Points of Emphasis)**

- a. 4-2-1-e: Removing any part of the uniform in the playing area is unsportsmanlike conduct and will be sanctioned.