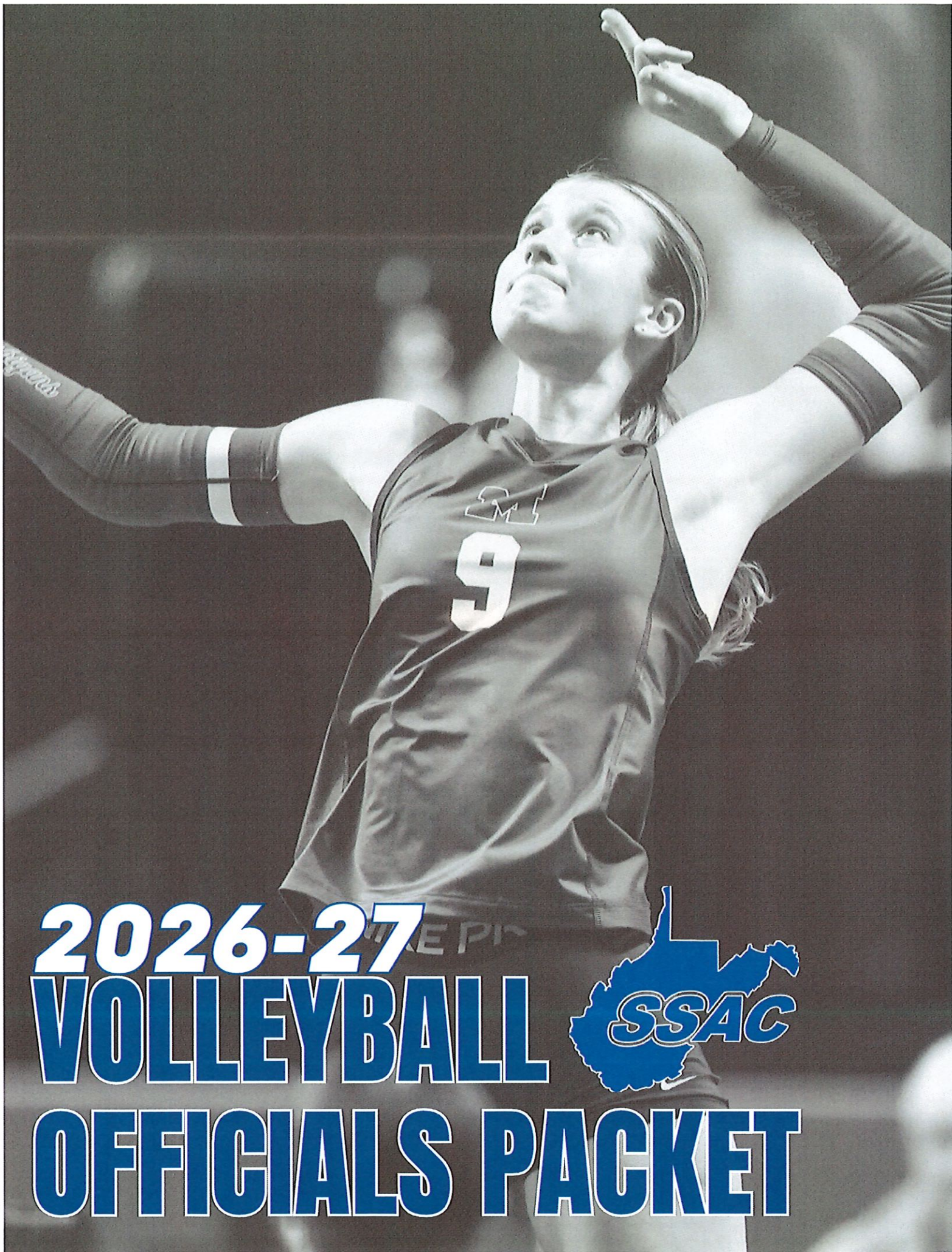




2026-27

VOLLEYBALL

OFFICIALS PACKET



**2026-2027
VOLLEYBALL RULES CLINICS**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>COORDINATOR</u>
July 29	John Marshall HS	6:00 pm	Roger Simmons
July 30	Huntington HS	6:00 pm	Bruce Senior
Aug 1	Interpreters Meeting/Rules Clinic WVSSAC	9:00 am	Jaclyn Swayne
Aug 3	Woodrow Wilson HS	6:00 pm	Andrew Pinnick
Aug 4	Herbert Hoover HS	6:00 pm	Richard Parsons
Aug 6	East Fairmont HS	6:00 pm	James Beckman
Aug 7	Spring Mills HS	6:00 pm	Glenn Simpson
Aug 8	Frankfort HS	9:00 am	Jay Hesse
Aug 10	WVSSAC Make-up Clinic	6:00 pm	Jaclyn Swayne

SCHOOLS: The **Head Coach** shall be **required** to attend any sports rules clinics which are sponsored by this Commission in his/her coaching assignment. Schools failing to have a head coaching position filled at the time of the clinic will be required to have a school representative present at the rules clinic. An individual can only represent one school unless he/she is head coach at both schools. In a 9-12 school, both the varsity and 9th grade coach are required to attend. Failure to have a representative at one of the above clinics will result in a \$50.00 fine.

The clinic attendance requirement may not be granted if the coach or representative is late in excess of 10 minutes.



2026–2027 WVSSAC Sports Officials Testing Dates

Football, Volleyball, and Soccer

Testing Window: Monday, August 3 – Monday, August 24

Swimming

Testing Window: Monday, October 26 – Monday, November 16

Basketball and Wrestling

Testing Window: Monday, November 9 – Monday, November 30

Baseball, Softball, and Track

Testing Window: Monday, March 1 – Monday, March 22



2026-2027 Self-Nomination Dates

Fall Sports

Football August 31st through October 12th

Soccer August 24th through September 28th

Volleyball August 31st through October 12th

Winter Sports

Basketball November 16th through January 18th

Wrestling November 16th through January 4th

Swimming November 16th through January 4th

Spring Sports

Baseball March 29th through May 3rd

Softball March 29th through May 3rd

Please note that the process for self-nominations this year will be changing with our change to Arbiter 360 and updates to do this will be provided later.

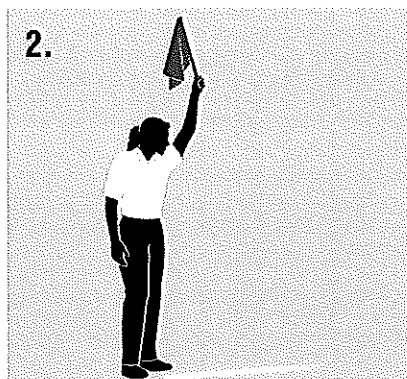


HOW TO USE LINE JUDGE SIGNALS

LINE JUDGE SIGNALS USING FLAGS



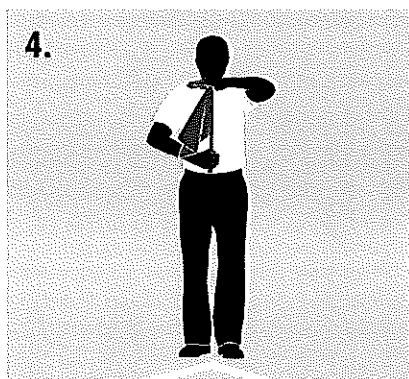
Inbounds



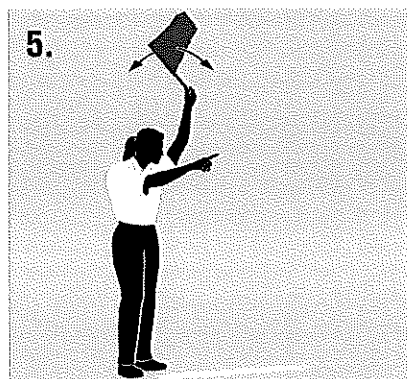
Out-of-Bounds



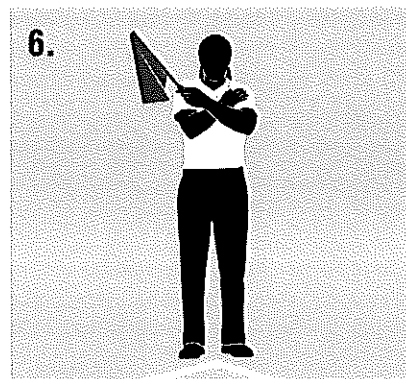
Obtain R1's Attention



Touch



a. Antenna Fault
b. Service Line Fault



View of Play Blocked

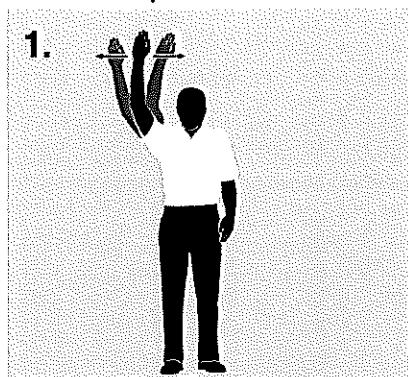
The flags should be solid red in color and of a recommended size of approximately 12 inches by 12 inches to approximately 16 inches by 16 inches. The flag and hand grip should be securely affixed to the pole.

1. **Inbounds:** Point with the flag down and toward the middle of the court.
2. **Out-of-Bounds:** Raise the flag, arm extended.
3. **Obtaining First Referee's Attention:** Raise flag over head and wave to obtain the first referee's attention, when necessary.
4. **Touch:** Raise the flag to shoulder height in front of body and place the open palm of the other hand on top of the flag.
- 5a. **Ball Outside or Hitting Antenna:** Wave the flag over the head and point to the antenna.
- 5b. **Service Line Fault:** Wave the flag over the head and point the service area using index finger, extended arm shoulder height.
6. **View of Play Blocked:** Raise and cross both arms in front of the chest, palms facing the body.

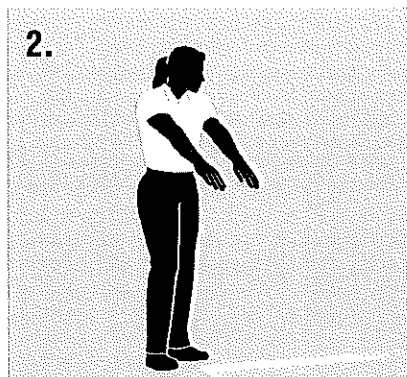
NOTE: Flags shall be used by line judges, unless determined by the state association to use hand signals.



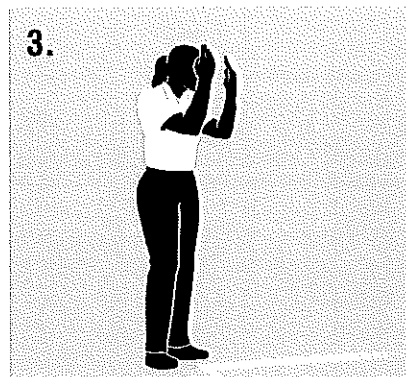
LINE JUDGE SIGNALS USING HAND SIGNALS



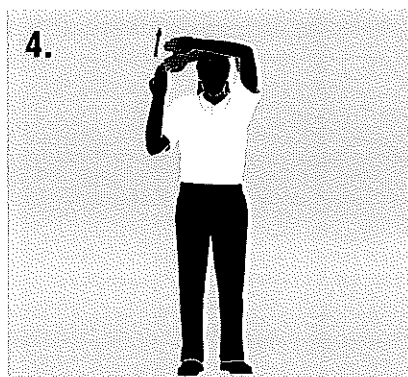
**Obtain First
Referee's Attention**



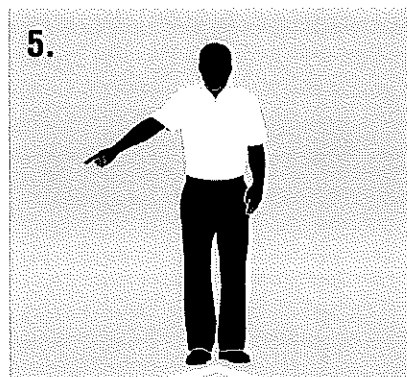
Inbounds



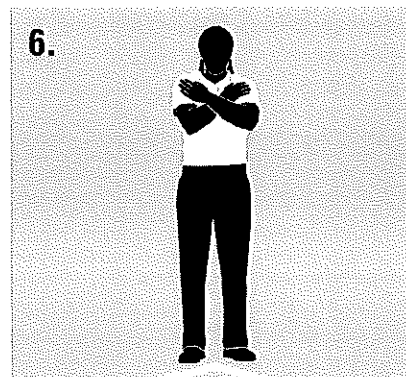
**Out-of-Bounds/
Antenna Fault**



Touch



**Line Fault/
Service Fault**



View of Play Blocked

1. **Obtaining First Referee's Attention:** Wave arm overhead to obtain the first referee's attention, when necessary. (1)
2. **Inbounds:** Arms extended in front of body, hands open (palms down) toward the floor area between the attack line and the net. (2)
3. **Out-of-Bounds/Antenna Fault:** Hold forearms in front of chest, hands open (fingers together) and palms toward face. (3)
4. **Ball Touched:** Hand on offending team's side held beside head, palm toward head, then brush upward across fingertips one time with other hand, palm forward. (4)
5. **Line/Service Fault:** Indicate the line where fault occurred by extending arm and pointing toward the line with the index finger. (5)
6. **View of Play Blocked:** Cross forearms in front of chest, palms facing the body. (6)

NOTE: Flags shall be used by line judges, unless determined by the state association to use hand signals.



Comments on the 2026-27 Rules Changes

4-2-1a, 4-2-1i(3) (NEW), 4-2-2 — The libero must be easily distinguishable from their teammates on the court. Permitting liberos to wear any color uniform bottom allows flexibility for teams while maintaining the integrity of the contrasting uniform.

5-5-3b(21) — Providing 15 additional seconds to the second referee for the administration of lineup checks before the final audio signal and resumption of play improves the pace between sets. Teams will still have 3 minutes (5 minutes when intermission is used) between sets before the final audio signal.

6-4-2, 10-4-3a, 10-4-3d — Allowing up to two liberos to be designated for each game increases the opportunity for more student-athletes to participate. A team may designate zero, one or two liberos, but only one libero can be in the game at a time. When a team designates two liberos and one is injured/ill, a new libero may be re-designated. When a team designates two liberos and one is disqualified, the team must continue with one libero.

6-4 PENALTIES 1c (NEW), 12-2-8b NOTE (NEW) — When a non-playing teammate(s) (bench player) enters the court during play it is illegal alignment (loss of rally/point awarded to the opponent) unless the non-playing teammate(s) enters to engage in behavior that would facilitate a conduct violation (disconcerting acts, disrespectful language, etc.). It remains a conduct violation if a coach or team attendant (anyone not in uniform) enters the court while the ball is in play.

6-5-1 — Players on the serving team are not permitted to raise their hands above their heads during service until the ball has passed beyond the net. There is no game-playing need for players to raise their hands above their head during service. This positioning has been used to disguise potential screening making it harder for officials to adjudicate the rules.

9-2-1 NOTE 1 (NEW) — Clarifying the prohibition of the use of audio and video equipment by on-field players, reinforces fair play and ensures that electronic communication is not used during competition. This language aligns with other NFHS sport codes.

12-2-8m (NEW) — The use of props by bench personnel as a part of bench celebrations is an unsporting conduct violation as their use has the potential to create disruptions and present safety concerns.



Contrasting Uniform Top Requirements



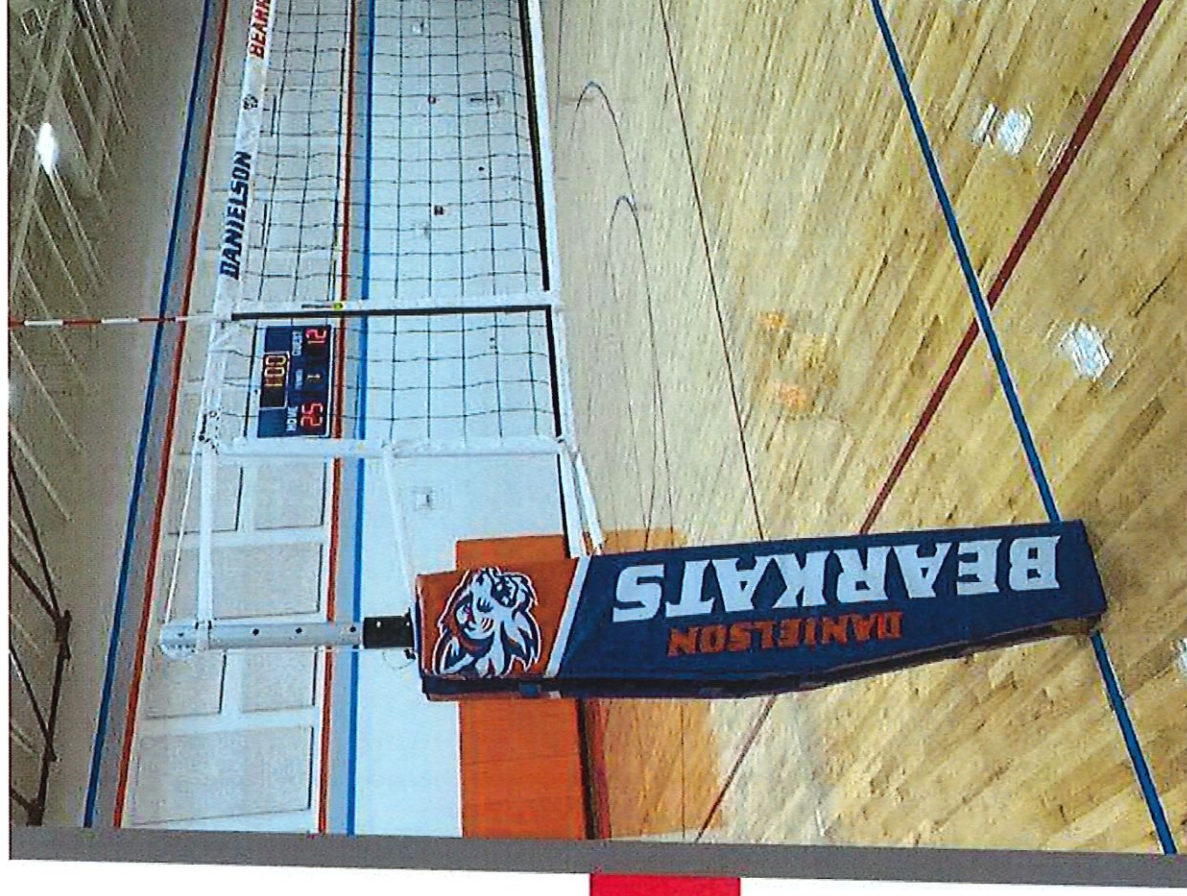
THE OFFICIAL VOLLEYBALL NET SYSTEM OF NFHS

sports **imports** **X**
AT THE CENTER OF EVERY VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIP



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Legal Uniform

Rule 4-2-1



Rule 4-2-1

ART. 1... All uniforms shall adhere to the following:

- a. Uniform tops [with the exception of the libero (4-2-2a)] shall be like-colored and uniform bottoms [with the exception of the libero (4-2-2b)] shall be like-colored;
- b. Uniforms shall be worn as the manufacturer intended;
- c. Uniforms shall be free of hard and unyielding items (buttons, zippers, snaps, fasteners, etc.);
- d. A single, visible manufacturer's logo and/or single school name or insignia no more than 2 1/4 inches are permitted on each visible undergarment;
- e. The school's name, nickname, logo, mascot and/or team member's name are permitted on the uniform top and/or bottom;



Rule 4-2-1

- f. A single partial/whole manufacturer's logo/trademark/reference, no more than 2 ¼ square inches with no dimension more than 2 ¼ inches, is permitted on each piece of the uniform provided placement does not interfere with the visibility of the player's number. Manufacturer's logo/trademark/reference restrictions do not apply to waistbands on uniform bottoms;
- g. One American flag, not to exceed 2 by 3 inches, may be worn or occupy space on each item of uniform apparel. By state association adoption, to allow for special occasions, commemorative or memorial patches, not to exceed 4 square inches, may be worn on the uniform without compromising its integrity.



Rule 4-2-1

- h. Uniform top:
 - 1. Bare-midriff tops are not allowed.
 - 2. The uniform top shall hang below or be tucked into the waistband of the uniform bottom when the player is standing upright.
 - 3. Any visible garment (t-shirt, body suits and other similar garments) worn underneath the uniform top shall be unadorned and of a single, solid color that is similar in color to the predominant color of the uniform top or be solid black, white or gray. All team members, other than the libero, must wear the same color undershirt.
- i. Like-colored uniform bottom:
 - 1. Multiple styles of uniform bottoms may be worn by teammates and may include: shorts, spandex, pants or skirts.
 - 2. A visible undergarment may be worn under the uniform bottom. It shall be unadorned and of a single solid color similar to the predominant color of the uniform bottom or be solid black, white or gray and may extend below the uniform bottom. All team members must wear the same color undergarment.
 - 3. The libero may wear any color uniform bottom.



Legal Uniform

Rule 4-2-2



Rule 4-2-2

ART. 2 . . . The libero uniform:

- a. The libero uniform top must clearly contrast from the predominant color(s) of the team uniform top, excluding trim. The libero's uniform top cannot be made up solely of the same predominant color(s) of the team's uniform top, even if the like color(s) are placed differently on the uniform top. Numbers shall meet all specifications in Rule 4-2-4.
- b. The libero uniform bottom may be any color while adhering to all other uniform rules.

- **The libero must clearly contrast with the rest of his/her teammates and conform to all other uniform rules.**



Establishing Predominant Color(s)

- Predominant color(s) is the color(s) appearing on the **majority** of the uniform top (body and sleeves).
- Uniform tops can have one predominant color with accent colors (colors used in designs or trim).
- **When one predominant color can be established, any of the accent colors – if clearly contrasting – can be used as the predominant color of the libero uniform top.**

Establishing Predominant Color(s)

- In this scenario, the uniform has **one predominant color: BLACK**



Team/Libero Uniform Compliance – Predominant Color(s)

Since the uniform has one predominant color (**BLACK**) any contrasting color can be used as the predominant color of the libero uniform and

BLACK can be used as an accent color.



Compliant



Team/Libero Uniform Compliance – Predominant Color(s)

Since the uniform has one predominant color (**BLUE**) any contrasting color can be used as the predominant color of the libero uniform and **BLUE** can be used as an accent color.



Compliant

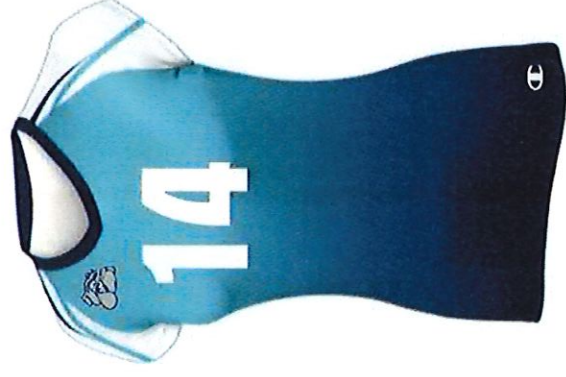


Establishing Predominant Color(s)

- Uniform tops can have **multiple predominant colors** sharing approximately the same amount of space on the uniform top.
- **When multiple predominant colors can be established none of the predominant colors can be used as the predominant color of the libero uniform top, even if placed differently on the uniform top.**

Establishing Predominant Color(s)

- In this scenario, the uniform has **two predominant colors**: **light blue** and **navy blue**.



Team/Libero Uniform Compliance – Predominant Color(s)

Which one of the jerseys below would be a compliant libero jersey?

Compliant



Non-compliant



Team Jersey

Establishing Predominant Color(s)

- In all scenarios when there is more than one prevailing uniform color, both colors are to be determined as predominant colors and neither should be used as the predominant color(s) of the libero uniform.



Establishing Predominant Color(s)

- In this scenario, the uniform has **two predominant colors**: **lime green** and **navy blue**.



Team/Libero Uniform Compliance – Predominant Color(s)

Which one of the jerseys below would be a compliant libero jersey?

Compliant



Non-compliant



Team Jersey

Team/Libero Uniform Compliance – Piping/Trim

Compliant

- Piping/trim does not need to be placed on a seam.
- There are no width requirements for piping/trim.
- The contrasting uniform can be blue or white or any other clearly contrasting color.



Team/Libero Uniform Compliance – Piping/Trim

Sublimation vs. seams – Both are compliant

Does the grey jersey contrast with the yellow jersey?

Compliant



Team/Libero Uniform Compliance – School References

Compliant

School mascot
references



Team/Libero Uniform Compliance – School References

Is the mascot permitted on the jersey of both the team and the libero?

Compliant



Team/Libero Uniform Compliance – School References

Compliant

- Can you clearly see the uniform number? (4-2-4a)
- The sublimated team mascot is compliant on both the team and libero jersey.
- A gold uniform with the sublimated mascot would be a compliant contrasting jersey.



PLAY.
PERFORM.
COMPETE.
TOGETHER.

Team/Libero Uniform Compliance – School References

- School references are allowed on the sleeve(s) of the uniform top without size restrictions.

Compliant



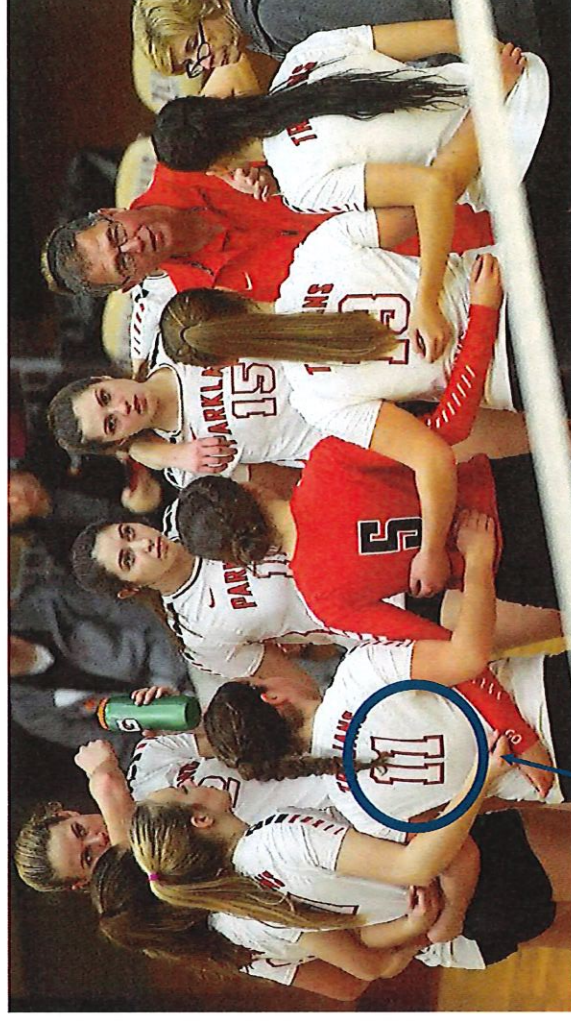
Legal Uniform
Rule 4-2-4c



Rule 4-2-4c

ART. 4 . . . The number shall be:

c. A plain, Arabic numeral of a solid color, where the body of the number (measuring not less than $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in width at its narrowest point) is a color that clearly contrasts to the color of the uniform top. A trim (contrasting border not to exceed $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in width at its widest point) or a shadow on part of the number not to exceed $\frac{1}{2}$ inch at its widest point is permitted but shall not be used to make the number clearly visible.



Non-compliant



Coming in 2028 . . .

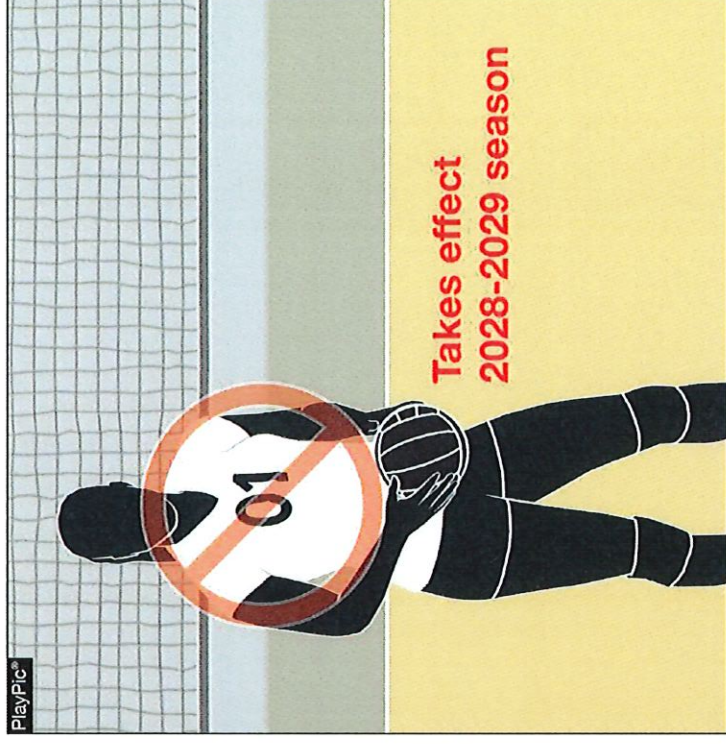


Rule 4-2-4b

ART. 4 . . . The number shall be:

- b. No more than two digits (0-99).
Beginning July 1, 2028, numbers
with a leading zero are not legal
(01, 02, etc.)

While **currently compliant**, jersey
numbers with a leading zero will be
non-compliant in 2028.



Coming in 2029 . . .



Rule 4-2-4d, f

ART. 4 . . . The number shall be:

d. Located on the upper front and back of the uniform top.

Beginning July 1, 2029, the number on the front of the uniform must be centered on the upper half of the uniform top and the requirements in item f. will be eliminated;



While **currently compliant**, uniforms not centered on the upper half of the uniform top will be **non-compliant** in 2029.



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All other uniform requirements as set forth in the NFHS Rules Book must be met for a uniform to be legal. Questions regarding uniforms should be directed to the state association. All state association questions can be directed to Lindsey Atkinson.

National Federation of State High School Associations

NFHS.org

Phone # 317-972-5730

Email latkinson@nfhs.org



@NFHS_org



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