



RULES OF THE GAME PARAVOLLEY CASEBOOK

2016 Edition

Compiled and Prepared

by the World ParaVolley Referee Commission

W O R L D

ParaVolley

World Paravolley Casebook 2016

Preface

Standing, sitting, beach standing and beach sitting Volleyball all are different variations of a great game. They have been actively adapted and promoted to be played by people with handicaps and has developed tremendously as an exciting competitive sport. In the last years changes provided for increased excitement, speed, explosive action, and a healthy image. Rules and guidelines have evolved to make understanding of the sport simpler and more attractive to an even wider range of viewing public.

However, to make a correct and uniform application of these rules on a world stage is also very important for the further development of the game. This Casebook is a collection of plays with Official Rulings approved by the World ParaVolley Referee Commission and based upon the most up-to-date edition of the Rules. These rulings expand on and clarify the spirit and meaning of the Official Rules, and are the official interpretations to be followed during all competitions.

This is the first edition of the Casebook based upon the 2013-2016 edition of the Rules and the latest rules modifications approved by the World ParaVolley Board of Directors.

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PARTICIPANTS

1. Before the start of the match, during the official warm-up, the referees checked the numbers of the players of both teams on the rosters. They noticed that the player #8 was on the team's list but he wasn't on the court. The coach said that the player will arrive within 40 minutes (during the match). Should the referees allow this player to play?

Ruling:

Permission is granted by the Control Committee of the match or tournament if the identity of the players has been checked previously (during the Preliminary Inquiry) and the identity card is present. In the case that there is no Control Committee and the referee must take a decision, players not present at the moment of the signature by the captain and the coach before the start of the match should be deleted from the scoresheet.

No Rule, Jury matter

2. Before the start of the match, the 2nd referee was checking the team's starting line ups and noticed that team "A" player #8 was on the court. The same player on the team starting lineup had #11. Should the referees allow changing the number on the team's list on the scoresheet?

Ruling: Yes. The referees together with Jury Member should confirm the name and identity of the player. If he had wrong number on the team list, he can play but his number on the team list must be corrected before start of the match or, if it is possible, change his shirt to match the number on the scoresheet. The referees must record this situation in the remarks section on the scoresheet.

Rule 4.1.3

WEARING FORBIDDEN EQUIPMENT AND OBJECTS

3. During the official warm-up before the start of the match, players of team A played with socks of different color. What is the procedure for the referees in this situation?

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Ruling: The referees should immediately inform the Jury Member of their observation. During a match held without Jury Member the referees should inform the coach of the team that the whole team should play with uniforms of the same color, including the socks. The players should change any socks of the wrong color before start of the match. If the team doesn't have socks of the same color, the first referee allows these players to participate in the match but records it in the remarks section of the scoresheet.

Rule 4.3.1

4. A team enters the court with 3 players wearing one a prosthetic leg, one a leg support, and the last a plaster cast for a damaged wrist - Should the referees allow such devices?

Ruling: Some yes - provided that the device will not cause undue risk to the player or the other players, or provide an undue advantage.

Rule 4.5.1

5. During the official warm-up at the net, the referees noticed that the player #5 of the team "B" played in specially made thick shorts. Do the referees allow him to play with these shorts?

Ruling: No players can wear specially made thick shorts or pants, which give him/her an abnormal advantage. The referees must inform the Jury Member of their observation. If the player doesn't change his/her shorts, he/she can't play in the match.

Rule 4.3

TEAM LEADERS

6. The coach of team "A" is also a player on the court. In this case only, the game captain is authorized to request time outs. Later during the match, the player – coach went out from the court and sat on the bench. At that time, the game captain requested a time out for the team. Should the 2nd referee allow this time out for team A?

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Ruling: No. The game captain is authorized to request time outs only in the absence of the coach. In this case the coach was not absent but was on the bench.

Rules 5.1.2.3; 5.3.2

7. The coach (as a player) entered the court. During one of the actions, the game captain was seriously injured and was taken off from the court. Who should in this situation nominate the new game captain?

Ruling: Abnormal situation for referees. The coach should normally nominate game captain but the coach was in the court like a normal player. The game captain couldn't nominate the game captain because he was seriously injured. There is no such situation in the rules.

In this abnormal situation the referees should ask the coach on the court about it.

Rules 5.1.2.3; 5.3.2; 23.2.3

8. What is the proper response by the 1st referee if a game captain constantly questions 1st referee decisions?

Ruling: Beyond the limits of Rule 5.1.2, he/she should warn the game captain with no penalty, as stated in Rule 21.1. If the behavior continues, the game captain should be sanctioned for rude conduct with a red card (point and service to the opponents).

Rules 5.1.2; 20.1; 20.2; 21.2; 21.3.1

9. After the referee's decision the "B" team protests loudly. After the protest, he changes his own decision. Is the referee correct in changing his decision?

Ruling: Yes. On the other hand, the teams are not allowed to protest against normal referee decisions. The first referee may change any decision of his/her fellow officials or of his/her own. If he/she has made a decision (whistled) and then sees that his/her colleagues (2nd referee, line judges or scorer) have, for instance, made different decision, if he/she sees that he/she was wrong, he/she may change his/her decision. The teams cannot protest against a referee's decision, the correct

procedure is that the captain, and only him/her, may ask the 1st referee for clarification on his/her ruling.

Rules 5.1.2.1; 23.2.4, Guidelines 23.4

10. The coach of team "A" was also a starting player in the first set. While the coach is on the court, the assistant coach wants to request time outs for the team (the captain is asking the 1st referee about it)?

Ruling: In this situation the coach lost his coach's privileges because he became a normal player. The assistant coach isn't authorized to request time outs. Only game captain can ask about these regular game interruptions. Should the coach have to leave his team for any reason, including a sanction, an assistant coach may assume the coach's functions for the duration of the coach's absence after confirmation by the first referee.

Rules 5.1.2.3; 5.3.2

11. The coach goes to speak to the 2nd referee during the match about some decisions and to protest. The second referee does not react, is this correct?

Ruling: No it is not correct, according to rule 5.1.2 only the game captain is authorized to speak to the referees to request explanations. The coach does not have the right to request anything from the members of the refereeing corps, except time-outs. But if on the scoreboard the number of used regular game interruptions and/or the score are not indicated or are not correct, he/she may inquire with the scorer when the ball is out of play.

Rules 5.1.2; 5.2.3.4; 21.1; 21.2; 21.3

12The coach stands just besides the side line during the match. The second referee asks him to move back or sit down. Is this correct?

Ruling: The coach, and only the coach, has the right to walk in the free zone behind the coach's line during the match between the extension of the attack line and the warm-up area without disturbing the line judges' work. The coach has no right to

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cross the coach's line or enter the court to carry out coaching functions. If the coach tries to go beyond these limits, he/she should be warned through the game captain.

Rule 5.2.3.4

13. The coach, is injured, uses sometimes crutches in the first set and a wheelchair in the second set in the free zone to perform his/her duties during the match. The first referee allows him to use both. Is the first referee correct?

Ruling: Yes, to stand or walk with crutches or use the wheelchair is not forbidden for the coach.

TEAM STARTING LINE-UP, POSITIONAL AND ROTATIONAL FAULTS

14. The server of team "A" is in the service zone. He has a ball in his hands and is waiting for the 1st referee to whistle for service. At the moment of the service hit, his buttocks are behind the end line but his legs are clearly in the court. Team "B" players are in the right positions on the court. The 1st referee doesn't stop this action because he decides that server didn't make a mistake. Was the decision correct?

Ruling: The decision of the 1st referee was correct. At the moment of the service hit, server's buttocks must be behind the end line (in the service zone) and his/her legs or hands can be anywhere including in the court. According to the rules, positions of players on the court are determined only according to their buttocks' position.

Rules: 12.3; 12.4.3

15. The server of team "A" is in the service zone. He has a ball in hands and is waiting for the 1st referee to whistle for service. His legs are clearly in the court and buttocks behind the end line (in service zone). At the moment of the service hit, his buttocks shortly lost a contact with the floor. At the same moment the receiving team makes a positional fault. Which team should serve next?

Ruling: If the server's buttocks didn't contact the floor at the moment of the service hit, this player made a fault – lifting. At the same moment, the receiving team made a positional fault for which the 2nd referee whistled. In this situation according the

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rule 12.7.1, the service fault happened first and team B won this rally and they should serve next.

Rules 7.5.2; 9.3.5; 12.4.3; 12.7.1

16. During the service hit of team "A", the player #9 of the receiving team (team "B") had both buttocks on the court, but also leant with one hand on the floor clearly outside of the sideline. The 2nd referee whistled a positional fault to player #9. The captain of team "B" didn't agree with referees' decision, and argued that the player #9 didn't make a fault and he could lean with his hand outside the court, beyond the side line. The 1st referee consulted the 2nd referee about this decision and replayed last rally. Was the decision correct?

Ruling: The 2nd referee's decision was wrong. The first referee's decision to replay the rally was correct. The position of the players on the court is determined only with buttocks. The position of the hands and legs isn't important. According the rules, team B didn't make a fault.

Rules 7.4; 7.4.3

17. The last rally was won by the receiving team "B". After rotation, the player in position 2 (#8) moved to the service zone. After a short discussion inside the team, they decided that the next server should be #5, who played during the last rally in position 3 (middle blocker). The player #8 went to position 6 (middle in back zone). The 2nd referee checked it together with the scorer on the scoresheet and noticed that during the last rally, team "B" played in incorrect positions. What is the correct decision of the referees in this situation?

Ruling: If during the last rally, the players of team "B" played in wrong positions, this rally in the end should have been won by team "A". The referees made a mistake and should have whistled and award a point and service to team "A". In this case, positional fault is verified at the moment of service. Only a rotational fault can be checked after the rally. Team "B" should correct their positions according to the scoresheet.

In this case, the referees cannot consider that team "B" was in positional fault during the last rally. If it was a rotational fault, the scorer determines the exact moment,

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when the fault was committed and all points scored subsequently by the team at fault must be cancelled. The team "A"'s points remain valid. If that moment cannot be determined no point(s) cancellation takes place, and a point and service to the team "A" is the only sanction.

Rules 7.6.1; 7.7.2; 12.22.2

18. How many "minimal disability" players may be on to the court at any time?

Ruling: The six players on court may include a maximum of one "minimal disability" player. If a Libero is on court, the six players must still fulfill this requirement. The team may include a maximum of two players classified as "minimal disability" in the team list (roster).

Rules 4.1.1; 15.6.4; 15.9.2

19. During the match, the scorer noticed that the wrong player has moved to the service zone. When the server was in position to serve with the ball in hands, the scorer pushed the buzzer and started to wave a hand, indicating that the server was wrong. Was the procedure of the scorer correct?

Ruling: The scorer wasn't correct. When he noticed that the wrong server was preparing for service he should have done nothing. Immediately after the service hit he should have pushed the buzzer to inform the 2nd referee that the service order was violated and that the team has made a rotational fault.

Rules 12.6.1.1; 25. 2.2

20. During the service hit, some players were sitting with parts of their feet or legs penetrating onto the opponent's court. Neither the 1st nor the 2nd referee whistled for players being outside of the boundary lines of their court, when the opponent server hit the ball for service. Were the referees correct?

Ruling: This is a correct decision by the referees, however they should ensure that the players do not interfere or prevent the opponents from playing the ball.

Rules 1.3.3; 7.4; 24.3.2.1

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21. During the service hit, a player of the receiving team “B” had his buttocks on the center line, across the axis of the line. The 2nd referee didn’t whistle a fault for the team “B” player. Was the decision of the 2nd referee correct?

Ruling: It was a good decision of the 2nd referee. The entire width of the center line is considered to belong to both courts equally. The player sat on the line and didn’t make a mistake. After the service, even if he sits partially on the opponent court, it isn’t a fault if the player doesn’t interfere with opponent’s play.

Rules 1.3.3; 7.4; 7.5.1; 24.3.2.1

22. The center back row player had a hand on the floor clearly in front of the buttocks of the center front row player at the time the ball was contacted for service. He had his buttocks behind the buttocks of the center front player. Is this a legal position for the receiving team?

Ruling: Legal position. Only the buttocks which are in contact with the floor are considered when determining whether players make a positional fault.

Rules 7.4.3; 7.4.3.1; 7.5

PLAYING THE BALL

23. Team A served. Player #5 of team “B” had his buttocks on the floor and received the ball with his hands near the floor. The ball bounced and slightly touched his forehead. Did the player of team “B” made a mistake?

Ruling: The player of team “B” didn’t commit a fault. During the first hit of the team, the ball may contact various parts of the body consecutively, provided that the contacts occur during one action.

Rules 9.1.1; 9.2.3; 23.3.2.3b

24. Can a player legally hit the ball with the palm of one hand up?

Ruling: The hit must be judged by the quality of the ball contact – i.e. is it a soft or hard rebound or whether or not the ball was caught and/or thrown. The 1st referee

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must not be too hasty in whistling this play unless he can clearly see that the ball is caught and/or thrown.

Rules 9.2.1; 9.2.2; 9.3.3; 9.3.4

25. After a block, can a player hit the ball twice in one action?

Ruling: A blocker has the right to make successive contacts after a block, as long as he/she makes only one action to play the ball. It is possible, however, to whistle a "double fault" on the first hit if two different phases (first catch, then throw) can be recognized within the action.

Rules 9.2.2; 9.2.3.2; 14.2

26. Must the 1st referee whistle for a handling fault if the player is making a spectacular recovery?

Ruling: The referee should consider the principle of "keep the ball flying". It means, if a player makes a quick movement and a big effort to recover the ball, and during the hit a slight double contact or catch has occurred, he/she must be less severe, than in a normal situation.

27. Team "A" setter hits the ball above the net, so that at the moment of the contact his/her fingers were in the opponent's space. After the set the ball flew parallel to the net toward an attacker. The blocker of team "B" touched the ball in team "A" space, so that the team "A" player could not execute the attack hit. How should the 1st referee decide?

Ruling: According to Rule 9, each team must play the ball within its own playing area and space (except in the case of Rule 10.1.2). Therefore, since the setter has hit the ball in the opponent's space, the setter committed a fault. The blocker also committed a fault by touching the ball in the opponent's space before the attack hit. However, only the first fault is penalized.

Rule 9

LIFTING

28. The setter #6 of team "A" passed the ball to player #4, left side attacker. This player, during the attack hit, when the ball was higher than the top of the net, leaned on his hand on the floor and his buttocks lost shortly the contact with the floor. The referees whistled a fault - lifting. Were the referees correct?

Ruling: Correct decision of the referees. If the attacker's buttocks lost contact with the floor during the attack hit, it was a fault. The team "B" won this rally.

Rules 13.3.4; 9.4; 9.3.5

29. During one of the actions, player #6, attacker of the team "A" made a lifting fault, when he attacked the ball. The 2nd referee whistled. Was it correct?

Ruling: Both referees should observe buttocks of the players during actions. Of course the first and the 2nd referee have their own responsibilities. One of them is for the 2nd referee to observe blocking action. He should whistle especially when he observes lifting of the blockers. But both referees must help each another. If the 1st referee didn't see lifting in the attack action and 2nd referee saw it, the 2nd referee must whistle.

Rules 9.3.5; 24.3.2.8

30. Player #5 from team "A" received the ball and passed it to setter #3. The setter stood up and took a few steps to reach the ball. He then sat down on the buttocks and played the ball. The 1st referee didn't whistle. Was the 1st referee correct?

Ruling: The 1st referee made a mistake. In sitting volleyball it is forbidden to stand up, raise the body or take steps to reach the ball even if when touching the ball the players buttocks were contacting the floor.

Rules 9.4.2; 23.3.2.3b; 23.3.2.8

31. During the match the front row player of team "A" lifted his buttocks as he executed an attack hit. After the attack hit, one of the blockers of team "B" made a lifting fault as the block touched the ball. 1st and 2nd referee whistled for the lifting

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fault at the same time (1st referee for attacker and 2nd referee for block). This rally was won by team "B". Was this decision of 1st referee correct?

Ruling: Yes!, the attack hit becomes faulty, when a player lifts his buttocks at the moment he hits the ball. In this situation the attacker of team "A" made a fault before the blocker of team "B". This rally should be won by team "B".

Rule 13.3.4

PENETRATION UNDER THE NET

32. After a blocking action, player #6 of team "A" was turning to his own court. During this movement he clearly crossed the center line and penetrated into the opponents' court. He didn't interfere with the play of team "B". 2nd referee didn't whistle. Was the referee correct?

Ruling: It was a correct decision of the 2nd referee. If player #6 didn't interfere with opponent play he didn't make a mistake.

Rules 11.2.2; 24.3.2.1

33. During a blocking action, the blocker of team "A" penetrates under the net to the opponent's court. His leg touched the attacker of team B, who failed to hit the ball because of the interference. 2nd referee whistled and showed fault to player of team "A". Was the referees' decision correct?

Ruling: YES! 2nd referee must whistle a fault of blocker, because he stopped the attackers' ability to play the ball.

Rule 11.2.2; 24.3.2.1

PLAYER AT THE NET

34. During one of the actions, the setter #3 of team "B" who played in position 2 on the court, passed the ball and later leaned his back on the net outside of the antenna. He didn't interfere with the opponent's play. Then he returned to the

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match. The 2nd referee decided that the player made a mistake and whistled. Was the 2nd referee correct?

Ruling: The 2nd referee made a mistake. This contact with the net took place outside of the antenna and didn't interfere with the opponent's play. It wasn't a mistake of the player. The 1st referee should replay the rally.

Rules 11.3.1; 11.3.2; 24.3.2.3

35. The setter sets the ball high from position 2 to position 4. Meanwhile the opposite blocker touched the top band of the net in position 3. Is this a net fault?

Ruling: No, interfering involves contact with the top band during the action of playing the ball – the opponent was not near the ball so the rally should not be stopped.

Rule 11.3.1

36. The setter reached above and beyond the plane of the net to set the ball, so that his/her attacker could make an attack hit. The 1st referee whistled the play as a fault. Is this a correct decision?

Ruling: The decision of the 1st referee was correct. Above the top of the net, a player must contact only the part of the ball on his own side (except if blocking).

A similar play under the net is different. Here the play is illegal only if the ball has completely crossed the vertical plane of the net.

Rules 9; 11.2.1

37. After a simultaneous contact above the plane of the net, the ball landed outside the court of team "A". Who gets next service?

Ruling: If the contact is truly simultaneous by opponents, and the ball lands outside of the court, it is the fault of the team on the opposite side. In this case, team "A" gets the point and service.

Rules 9.1.2.2; 9.1.2.3

SERVICE

38. After the service, the ball hit the top of the horizontal band and tore it down. The 1st referee replayed this rally. Was the decision of the 1st referee correct?

Ruling: According the rules if the ball rips the mesh of the net or tears it down, the rally is cancelled and replayed. In this situation, the decision of the 1st referee was correct.

Rule 10.3.2

39. After the whistle for service, the serving team recognized it was the wrong player at service. The correct server then entered the service zone ready to serve. Can this player now serve?

Ruling: Yes – provided the service is made by the correct player within 8 seconds from the whistle for service. The 1st referee does not whistle a second time.

Rule 12.4.4

ATTACK HIT AND BLOCK

40. Team “A” served. Team “B” returned the ball directly in the direction of team “A”. The blocker of team “A”, during his blocking action, directed the ball clearly in two directions, first forward and after to the side. The 1st referee whistled catch the ball of the blocker of team “A”. Was the decision correct?

Ruling: Correct decision of the 1st referee. If the blocker caught the ball and next threw it, even if in a blocking action, he would make a fault, and the 1st referee should have this fault whistled.

Rule 9.3.3

41. The setter of team “B” passed the ball to player #6 who played in position #5. During the attack hit, the legs of this player were in the attack zone. One buttock was behind the attack line and the other slightly touched it. Half of the ball was

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higher than the top of the net. The referee whistled an attack hit fault when the ball touched the blockers of team A. Was the decision correct?

Ruling: Incorrect decision. During the attack hit it is legal for the legs to cross the attack line, but it is illegal for one of the buttocks to touch the attack line (the attack line is part of the front zone). But if the ball was done on the part of the ball that is not entirely higher than the top of the net, the team didn't make a fault.

If the ball is entirely higher than the top of the net and one buttock crosses or touches the attack line it is a fault and the referees should whistle a fault.

Rules 13.2.2; 13.2.3; 13.3.3

42. Team "A" blocked legally in the space of team "B". Player #9 of team "B" pushed down one hand of team "A" blocker and his hand touched the net. Which team made a fault? Which team should serve next?

Ruling: This is a very difficult decision for referees. Referees decision should be that the player of team B made a fault because he pushed the opponent's hand and interfered with the play of team A. In this situation team A should win this play and be awarded a point and next service.

The 1st referee should also consider a sanction for unsportsmanlike conduct. If the action of #9 of team B was made intentionally, not during a normal action, this player should also be penalized according the sanction scale.

Rules 11.1.1; 11.4.4; 14.1.1; 14.3

43. Team "B" back row setter #14 moved to the front zone and tried to set the ball. The ball crossed the net to team "A" where player #6 immediately attacked. After this attack the ball touched team "B" #14 hands, higher than the top of the net but approximately 50 cm from the net on his side. The 2nd referee whistled the setter's fault. Was the referee's decision correct?

Ruling: The 2nd referee made a mistake. If the blockers hands weren't close to the net it wasn't a block attempt. It was the first touch of team B. None of the players made a mistake. This rally should be replayed.

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Rules 14.1.1; 14.4.1

44. Team "B" back row setter #14 moved to front zone and tried to pass the ball. The ball crossed the net to team "A" where player #6 immediately attacked. After this attack the ball touched team "A" #14 hands close to the net but below the top of it. The ball was partially over the top of the net. The referees didn't whistle and decided that the setter didn't make a fault. Was the referee's decision correct?

Ruling: It was a correct reaction of the referees. It wasn't a fault. The back row player would have made a fault if his hands close to the net contacted the ball higher than the top of the net.

Rule 14.1.1

45. During the match, team "A" served. Player #8 of team "B" blocked the service reaching beyond the net into the serving team's space and grounded the ball in opponent's court. The 1st referee awarded a point and service to team "B". The captain of team "A" protested and reserved the right to protest against this referee's decision. What should be the correct decision of the 1st referee?

Ruling: According to the sitting volleyball rules, blocking of the service is permitted, even in the opponent space. The 1st referee was correct.

Rules 5.1.2.1; 14.5; 23.2.4

46. Instead of setting the ball to a teammate, a back row setter, within the front zone, decided to tip the ball across the net. During the hit the ball was completely above the net. Can this ball be blocked by reaching completely over the net?

Ruling: Yes - this was an attack hit. As soon as a blocker touches the ball, an illegal attack hit is completed.

Rules 13.1.1; 13.1.3; 13.2.2; 13.3.3

47. On a second hit, a player sets the ball near the net towards the opponent's court. In the 1st referee's opinion, no player of team "A" could possibly reach the

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ball. The blocker from team “B” reached across the plane of the net and blocked the ball. What is the correct decision of the 1st referee?

Ruling: Even though it was only the second team hit, if the ball is moving in the direction of the opponent's court, it is an attack hit. Because, in the referee's opinion, no player of team A could possibly have reached the ball, the block of team B was legal.

Rules 13.1.1; 14.3

48. A back row player in the front zone attacked the ball which was completely higher than the top of the net for the second hit of the team. The ball rebounded off the net and did not cross to the opponent. Is this a fault?

Ruling: No. Since the ball neither crossed the plane of the net nor was contacted by the blocker, the attack hit was not completed. The rally continues.

Rules 9.1; 13.1.3; 13.2.2; 13.3.3

49. The blocker from Team “A” reached over the net to block the opponent's “setting” action. The first referee did not stop the play. When asked by the captain from team “B”, he said that the ball was going slightly toward team “A” court and it was not important that team “B” could touch the ball before it would cross the net. Was the 1st referee correct?

Ruling: It is a fault to block a set. However, it is absolutely necessary for the 1st referee to determine the action of the setter. He/she must know whether the set was

- made parallel to the net (blocker's fault) or

- going towards the net without another player able to complete an attack, thus making it an attack hit (no fault).

Rules 14.1.1; 14.3

50. An attacker hit the ball coming from the reception of his/her teammate with both hands using a blocking action, directing the ball to the other side of the net. The first referee did not whistle, is this correct?

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Ruling: It is a legal play, provided it is not a double contact or a catch or a throw. The contact must be on the player's own side of the net, however – not the opponent's.

51. The ball made multiple contacts with the head and hands of several blockers. Should this be permitted?

Ruling: Provided it is a blocking action and not separate actions, this counts as one block contact. After the block, a team is allowed three more ball contacts.

Rules 9.1; 14.2; 14.4.1

52. The contact with the ball by a blocker was lower than the top of the net, although part of his hand was above the net. Is this a block?

Ruling: Yes – having part of the body above the net is decisive; after this block the team would therefore have three more hits.

Rules 9.1; 14.1.1; 14.4.1

53. Illegal attack hit by back row player versus attempted Libero block - which occurs first?

Ruling: The attack hit becomes a fault at the moment the ball totally crosses the plan of the net or is touched by the opponent's block. The attempt of the Libero to block is an action made before the completion of the opponent's attack hit and is therefore the first fault.

Rule 19.3.1.3

SUBSTITUTIONS

54. A player entered into the substitution zone and stood near the sideline. His coach noticed that the player didn't take the substitution paddle. He gave it to him very quickly without any delay. The 2nd referee allowed this substitution and the referees didn't sanction delay. Was it a correct reaction from the referees?

Ruling: If the coach gave the paddle without any delay, in the spirit of the game, the referees were correct.

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Rule 15.10

55. A player of team “B” entered into the substitution zone with paddle #5 and stood at sideline. At this moment the coach noticed that the player took the wrong paddle – he should have taken #8. He gave him the paddle #8 and took away #5 which delayed the substitution. The referees didn’t accept it and sanctioned team “B” with a delay warning. Were the referees correct?

Ruling: The referees were correct. The player entered to the substitution zone with the wrong paddle and later changed it with some delay. It was clearly a delay and referees correctly rejected the substitution. The decision about sanctioning was also correct.

Rules 16.1.1; 16.2; 15.10.3

56. Two substitute players entered the substitution zone. After the request was recognized and acknowledged by the scorer, the coach decided to make only one substitution. What is the procedure for the 2nd referee?

Ruling: This is legal as long as this does not cause a delay. Therefore the 2nd referee simply carries out a single substitution.

Rules 15.10.2; 15.10.3a; 15.10.4; 16.1

57. One substitute player entered the substitution zone while another one was just leaving the warm-up area to try to enter the substitution zone. How many substitutions should be allowed under the current rules?

Ruling: The moment of the request is the entrance of the substitute player(s) into the substitution zone. In this case the 2nd referee should grant only one substitution for the player who actually entered the substitution zone. The second request should be rejected as improper request and recorded on the scoresheet.

Rules 15.10.3a; 15.10.3b; 15.11.1.3

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58. A substitution was “requested” by a team, by sending the player into the substitution zone. Because the player was not ready to play (wrong paddle/ no paddle/track suit, etc.), his team was sanctioned with a delay warning and the substitution was rejected. As soon as the delay sanction was applied, the team again requested the substitution. Was it allowed to make this second request during the same interruption?

Ruling: The substitution was not legal and therefore not allowed. As the first request for substitution was rejected, the team was not authorized to request a second consecutive substitution in the same interruption. At least one rally must be completed before there can be another request for substitution by the same team.

Rule 15.3.2

59. A player became injured and had to be substituted exceptionally. During the same interruption, the team requested an additional substitution. The 2nd referee accepted the request. Was the 2nd referee’s decision correct to accept the request?

Ruling: Yes, the decision was correct. The first player had to be substituted by an exceptional substitution due to injury. The team still had the right to request a regular substitution during the same interruption.

Rule 15.7

60. A starting player #6 was substituted by #9, then returned to court - but became injured and was not able to continue in the match. On the bench were player #9 and a libero. Who can substitute this player?

Ruling: Even though the player cannot be substituted by a legal substitution, he can be substituted exceptionally by any player not on court, except the Libero or his replacement player. This is recorded on the scoresheet but does not count as one of the six allowed substitutions. In this case player #9 can only be substituted exceptionally with player #6.

Rule 15.7

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61. A player listed on the line-up sheet was injured before the start of the match. Can he be substituted before the match?

Ruling: Yes – but it should be shown formally by the coach's substitution signal and recorded on the scoresheet as a regular substitution.

Rules 7.3.2; 7.3.4

62. After team "B" had used five substitutions, two substitute players entered the substitution zone. What is the proper response of the 2nd referee?

Ruling: The 2nd referee has to remind the coach that only one substitution will be possible and ask the coach which one will be made. Provided there is no delay, the other substitution will be rejected as an improper request which is recorded on the scoresheet.

Rules 15.5; 15.6; 15.11; 16.1

63. A substitute player was standing in the substitution zone, ready to enter. However, the player on court initially refused to leave the court. Is this delay? Should the substitution be refused?

Ruling: Yes, it is delay. However, the substitution this time should be allowed:

Where the substitute player is not ready and causes a delay, the correct application of the rule is to reject the substitution and give a sanction to the team for delay. However, it is the player in play that caused this special case, and the substitute player did not cause the delay.

Rules 16.1.1; 23.2.3

64. If the line-up sheet does not match the court positions what does the 2nd referee do?

Ruling: The 2nd referee should show the line-up sheet to the coach and ask what he wants to do.

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If the coach wishes to keep the line-up that is on court, he needs to make legal substitutions at 0:0. This is one of the situations, where the coach must give the hand signal to avoid misunderstandings. The 2nd referee also must carry this out formally for public understanding of the situation.

If the coach wishes to keep the line-up that is on the scoresheet, the correct players must take their proper place on court without delay, otherwise there should be a delay sanction

65. After the whistle for service, a substitute player entered the substitution zone. The scorer ignored this, 2nd referee showed to the player that she could not enter and the game didn't stop. After the end of the rally the 2nd referee told the scorer to record an improper request in the score sheet. Was this the right procedure?

Ruling: The 2nd referee was correct. This was a typical case of an improper request, which had to be recorded in the score sheet. If this was a repeated improper request, a delay sanction must have been issued.

Rules 15.11.2; 16.1.4

IMPROPER REQUESTS

66. Can a team request a substitution before and after a time out, all taking place in the same interruption in play?

Ruling: No – while two Time outs can be called by the same team in the same interruption, two successive substitution requests are not allowed and the second should be considered as improper request.

Rules 15.3.1; 15.3.2; 15.10.3a; 15.11.1.3; 25.2.2.6

INJURIES

67. Can a player play with an arm bleeding?

Ruling: A player cannot play if he is bleeding, Referees must use discretion if an injury makes a player bleeds. If an immediate medical treatment does not rectify the injury,

he/she must be substituted or replaced until the bleeding is stopped and the blood is removed from the player's uniform. A substitute player must be permitted a reasonable time to take off his/her training suit and enter the game without sanctions.

Rules 4.4; 15.5; 15.10.2; 15.10.3a; 17.1.1

DELAYS OF THE GAME

68. During official WPV tournament, according to the rules, the organizers prepared buzzers for the teams. The coach of team "A" requested time out with a hand signal, but didn't use the buzzer. The second referee authorized it the first time but asked the coach to use the buzzer for the rest of the match. The second time, the coach didn't use the buzzer again (he used only the hand signal). The second referee didn't authorize this time out. Team "A" started to go to the bench without referee's permission. What should be an appropriate reaction of the referee?

Ruling: The reaction of the second referee was correct. At the first request he authorized time out without a buzzer signal and instructed the coach that he had to use this obligatory equipment. In the next situation he didn't authorize it. It was also correct. The coach must use the buzzer and the second referee instructed him about it earlier during the match.

If the team went out from the court before referee's whistle for time out and causes delay it would be a delay and would have to be sanctioned.

Rules 15.4.1; 16.1.1; 24.2.4

69. Prior to the start of the third set of a match, the 2nd referee whistled the teams to enter the court. One team did not react. When they were too slow to respond, the 1st referee issued a delay warning to them. The team then entered the court. Was this the appropriate action by the 1st referee?

Ruling: Yes, the 1st referee acted correctly. The teams must be summoned to take their positions on the court. If they do not react, the 1st referee must issue a delay warning by pointing to the wrist with the corresponding card, and this must be recorded on the score sheet. If the team still did not react, a delay penalty, indicated by a red card to the wrist, would have been given.

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Rules 6.4.1; 16.1

LIBERO

70. The libero of team "A" went out of the court and sat down on the floor in front of the bench. The second referee intervened and asked him to sit on the bench or to go to the warm-up area. Was the second referee correct?

Ruling: The second referee was correct. The player who doesn't take part in the match must sit on the bench (not in front of the bench) or be in the warm-up area.

Rules 4.2.1; 24.2.4

71. The Libero entered the game without the 2nd referee's permission after checking the line-up before the set. The second referee did not make the libero come back out. Is this correct?

Ruling: Yes, as long as the 2nd referee has finished checking the line-up of the team. The starting player must be on the court at the time of the line-up check. As soon as the 2nd referee checked the line-up, the Libero may replace the back row player.

Rules 19.3.2.4; 19.3.2.8; 24.3.1

72. The Libero was on the court for player #5 and was expelled from the set. What is the correct process to continue the match?

Ruling: There are 3 cases:

If the team has two Liberos, the coach may exchange the sanctioned Libero immediately by the other Libero.

If the team has only one Libero, the team may choose:

- to send Player #5 back on the court in place of the Libero and play without a Libero for the remainder of the set, and at the time of his choosing the coach re-designates a new Libero from the players not on the court at the moment of re-designation.

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-A new re-designated Libero from the players not on the court may immediately and directly exchange the expelled Libero (who is not allowed to play for the remainder of the match).

Rules 6.4.3; 19.1.1; 19.3.2; 19.3.2.8; 19.4

73. While diving after a ball, the only Libero (replacing player #4) injured himself and could no longer play. The coach then decided that he wanted player #4 to become the re-designated Libero. Is this possible?

Ruling: Not directly. The coach may re-designate a new Libero from one of the players not on the court (replacement player excepted) at the moment of the request for re-designation. If the coach wants player #4 to be the new Libero, #4 at first has to return to court and be substituted legally. Then he/she can be re-designated as new Libero.

Rules 19.1.3; 19.3.2.2; 19.3.2.8; 19.4.2

74. The Libero was replaced and immediately sent back to the court (without any rally between the two replacements). Is this permitted?

Ruling: No. This is a typical case for illegal Libero replacement. At the moment of the 2nd replacement the 2nd referee should reject it, and the 1st referee should issue a delay sanction. When there is an assistant scorer, it is his/her duty to check the Libero replacements. In this case, at the moment of the second replacement, he/ she should press the buzzer, signaling the fault committed.

Rules 19.3.2.1; 23.2.3

PARTICIPANTS CONDUCT

75. The substitute player #5 stood in front of the team's bench and argued loudly about the first referee's decision. The first referee recognized this as rude conduct and immediately showed a red card to this player. Was the decision of the first referee correct?

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Ruling: Decision about rude conduct was correct, but the procedure was wrong. The first referee should call the game captain and tell him, showing red card "I give player #5 a penalty". The game captain must inform team member /in this case #5/, who must stand up and raise his hand. At this moment when the player stands up the first referee displays the red card visibly to everybody.

Rules 20.1.2; 21.1; 21.2.1; 21.3.1; 23.3.2.2

76. During a match, the result was 24:23 for team A. The first referee decided to give a penalty to two players: one from team "A" and another from team "B". What should be the procedure in this situation?

Ruling: The result was 24:23, if the 2 penalties are simultaneous, it would look like the set is ended (25:23) if the referee gives the first penalty to team "B" player. To avoid confusion, in this situation, the first referee should penalize the team A player first (24:24). Next he should give red card to team "B" player. The result after both cards would be 25:24 for the team "A" and the teams would continue to play.

Rules 6.2; 21.3.1; 21.6

77. The 1st referee warned a player for minor misconduct, going directly to STAGE 2 of the minor misconduct procedures, and showing the player a yellow card, to be recorded on the score sheet. Is this a correct action by the 1st referee?

Ruling: This is a correct action by the referee. Such minor misconducts must be controlled by the 1st referee. The yellow card must therefore be recorded.

Rules 21.1; 21.2

78. A player was expelled with no prior sanction. How should the referee regard a subsequent minor misconduct from any other member of the same team?

Ruling: After the expulsion, the 1st referee may issue a warning to other team members but once the official warning (yellow card) is given to the team, it may not be given (and yellow card shown) again to any member of the team.

Rule 21

THE REFEREES AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES

79. Before the whistle for service of team “B”, the first referee didn’t look at the receiving team “A” and whistled. Right before the whistle, the player #8 of team “A” fell down injured. The first referee didn’t see it because he/she only looked at the serving team. The server directed the ball to player #8, who was on the floor. What should be the procedure in this situation?

Ruling:

- 1. Before the whistle for service the first referee must look at both teams and check if they are ready to play. In this case the first referee didn’t look at the receiving team;*
- 2. The second referee who observes the receiving team during the service hit, must immediately whistle injury if the first referee didn’t see it;*
- 3. In this situation the rally must be replayed.*

Rule 12.3

80. During time outs and technical time outs, the second referee looked at the assistant scorer and waited for the hand signal determining whether Libero’s position was in or out. The assistant-scorer did not show positions of the Liberos on the court to the second referee. The second referee asked a few times without any results. What should the second referee do during the match and after it in this situation?

Ruling: It is a duty of an assistant scorer to show positions of the Liberos on the court to the second referee. The second referee should ask him/her and remind him/her about his/her tasks. If there is no result, he should also inform the Jury Member about it during the match and discuss about the situation with the Referee Delegate after the match.

Rules 26.2.1.1; 26.2.2.2; 26.2.2.3

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81. A player attacked the ball. The ball went into the top of the horizontal band of the net approximately 0,5m outside the antenna, near the second referee. Which referee should whistle this fault: the first or the second?

Ruling: It is a duty of the second referee. According the rule 24.3.2.7, if the ball crosses the net totally or partly outside of the crossing space to the opponent court or contacts the antennae on the second referee side of the court, he/she must whistle.

Rule 24.3.2.7

82. The 2nd referee told a coach not to talk with or distract the scorer. Is this a correct action by the 2nd referee?

Ruling: In the spirit of the art of refereeing, if such situations can be resolved by the 2nd referee without formality, this can be done.

Rule 23.3.2.2

83. The captain from team "A" tries to make a formal protest on the score sheet but she has not notified the referee of his intention during the match, The referee does not allow the captain to write the protest. Is the first referee correct?

Ruling: If at the time of any incident, the game captain made no mention of a protest, he/she cannot make a written protest on the score sheet at the end of the match.

Rules 5.1.2.1; 5.1.3.2; 23.2.4

84. The assistant coach came to the sideline to assist the players to find a wet spot on the court. The 1st referee called the game captain and told him/her to tell the assistant coach to stay on the bench. Did the 1st referee make a correct decision?

Ruling: The decision of the 1st referee was correct. The assistant coach is allowed to sit on the bench and may not intervene in the match. Only the coach may walk near the sideline behind the coach's restriction line.

Rules 5.2.3.4; 5.3.1

SPECIAL CASES

85. The players stand near the sidelines of the court and prepare to enter the court for presentation before the start of the match. They stand next to the first referee in this order: 8 (captain), 2 (active libero), 12, 1, 10, 6, 3, 7, 9, 5, 11, 4 (second libero). Is this correct? Or should the players stand in numerical order like 8, 2, 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 4 (second libero)?

Ruling: According to the rules, nearest to the first referee should stand the team captain (#8) then next the active libero (#2). The second libero should stand at the end. Positions of the other players aren't important and players can freely stand in any numerical order.

86. During the match, the player #6 of team "B" is in the service zone and waiting for the first referee to whistle. The first referee notices on the player's forehead a green point from the spectator laser device. Should the referee whistle for the service in this situation?

Ruling: No. According this situation, when one of the spectators use the laser device against the player, the first referee should stop the game and, by the second referee, inform the Jury Member about it. The Jury must ask the announcer to inform the fans that they should stop this laser action against the players. The referees can resume the game after a special confirmation from the Technical Delegate or a Jury Member of this match.

Rule 23.2.3

87. During the warm-up session before the start of a match, water drops fell down from the ceiling to position no 4 on the court. The floor was wet in this place. What procedure should the referees take?

Ruling: The match can't start when unforeseen circumstances occur. The referees should immediately inform the Jury Member and organizers about it. They shall decide the measures to be taken to re-establish normal conditions. The referees must wait the decision of the Jury Member before starting the match and if the incident reoccur in the match inform him/her immediately.

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Rules 1.2.1; 17.2; 17.3.1; 23.2.3

88. During national championships the referees inspected a competition hall. They noticed that antennae were on the same side of the net. The organizers informed them that they can't change one of them, because the net have special pockets for the antennae only on the same side of the net. What should the referees decide in this situation?

Ruling: According the rules the antennae should be fastened on the opposite sides of the net (2.4). The referees should ask the organizers to take off one of the antenna from the special pocket and fasten it to the other side of the net. During all competition the referees should help organizers prepare the court according to the rules.

If there is a jury member they must inform and wait the decision of the Jury Member before starting the match.

Rule 2.4

89. During the fifth set, when the score was 8:6, the teams changed court and went into the courts. At that time the moppers started to mop the floor and the second referee decided to ask the teams to go near their benches. Was the decision of the second referee correct?

Ruling: No, the decision was not correct, during this interruption there is no floor mopping. When the teams change courts in the middle of the fifth set, they must go immediately into the courts. If the moppers faulty start to mop, the referees must stop them and get them off the court immediately. The second referee must check the line-up of both teams and the game must begin.

In this case the second referee committed a fault.

Rules 23.2.2; 25.2.2.5

90. After the last decision of the first referee in the match, the players of both teams went to the end lines. Referees: first, second and line judges stood near the first referee post. The players shook hands and thanked referees and opponents

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near the post and near the net. Should the line judges stand near the first and the second referee after the match near the first referee post?

Ruling: According to the WPV Refereeing Guidelines and Instructions only the first and second referees stand near the first referee post.

Line judges must go to the scorer table after the match.