

# 2008-2009 MHSA Online Volleyball Clinic Handouts

**Officials:** *All of these slides are presented as part of your clinic.*

**Coaches:** *Slides 1 and 2 are presented; then proceed to slide 27 for the remainder of your presentation.*

**Slide 1** Welcome to the MOA/MHSA online clinic presentations. I am Mark Beckman, Executive Director of the MHSA and Commissioner of the MOA. The MHSA/MOA is again presenting the rules clinics in this electronic format for coaches and officials throughout the state. This format saves travel time and costs for schools and officials, and by eliminating travel to clinic sites, this online format provides a safer more flexible means of delivering this necessary information.

Everyone will view the same clinic, providing consistency for coaches and officials. The clinic will be accessible during the season so you can go back and review a particular section. The software has been upgraded and all clinic production is done in house. You will find the audio clearer and the presentation slides larger and easier to read. If you have any questions or comments regarding this format please contact Brian Michelotti at the MHSA office; his email address is bmicelotti@mhsa.org.

This is the fourth year of utilizing online clinics as a means of delivering the essential rules information for each activity. As requested by the MHSA Executive Board and the MOA Regional Directors, an electronic survey regarding the clinic process was sent via email to all head coaches, administrators and officials in June 2008. Responses continue to be received, and your input has been appreciated. If you have not had the opportunity to respond yet, please take a few moments to do so. The MHSA/MOA staff values your input. If you did not receive an electronic survey, please contact an MHSA staff member and provide your email address.

All head coaches must view the clinic for their activity in order to meet the clinic requirement. However, all other members of the coaching staff, as well as activities directors, are encouraged to view the clinics.

Please follow the directions at the end of the presentations to sign in and receive credit for completing the clinic requirement. We encourage you to print two copies of the verification page confirming that you have viewed the clinic. Keep one copy for your records and if you are a coach, provide a copy to your administrator as proof of your completion of this clinic.

Again, please feel free to the MHSA office with any questions or comments concerning the online presentations of the MHSA/MOA rules clinics.

**Slide 2** You are about to view the mandatory clinic for your activity. You must view the entire presentation in order to receive credit. Complete the information on the last page to ensure that your attendance has been submitted. Properly recording your attendance after the viewing is complete will fulfill the MHSA and/or MOA clinic requirements. Head coaches are required to view the clinic, but all assistant coaches and other personnel are strongly encouraged to view the presentation.

**Slide 3** This MHSA/MOA rules clinic presentation will follow the agenda listed on this slide. Please note that only MOA members will be required to view the MOA General Information and MOA Handbook portions of the clinic.

Sport Specific Rules Information – presented by the appropriate MHSA staff member:

Football/Golf – Brian Michelotti

Soccer – Joanne Austin

Cross Country/Volleyball – Scott McDonald

Now I would like to turn it over to Theresa Stanisich, MOA Coordinator, who will be presenting the MOA General Information section of this clinic.

**Slide 4** Hi, I am Theresa Stanisich, your MOA Coordinator. I would like to take this opportunity to share with you some general information regarding the MOA.  
As in the past, please contact your Regional Director regarding any issues you may have in your area concerning officiating, but if you need information regarding ratings, upgrading or have questions regarding your MOA status please email me at [tstanisich@mhsa.org](mailto:tstanisich@mhsa.org) or you can call me at 442-6010.

**Slide 5** The Montana Officials Association Board is composed of eleven Regional Directors who represent his/her region for the MOA. The Directors shall have responsibility for the general oversight of the MOA.

The MOA Regional Directors meet twice a year – in December and in June to conduct the business of the MOA. Later in this presentation information will be presented that includes rule changes that have been approved by the MOA Board and the MHSAs Executive Board during those meetings.

**Slide 6** The Directors serve a three year term and the MOA Board clarified this year that any member in good standing and residing within the prescribed boundaries of their region may be elected to the position of Director.

Officials shall receive ballots for regional director for the region in which their pool is located. Officials who are members of multiple sports pools will receive ballots for the official's region of residence.

**Slide 7** The next two slides provide a list of your MOA Regional Directors. We thank all of these individuals for their service, and if you have any questions in your area, please do not hesitate to contact your representative. Also, all other contact information for your regional directors is listed on the MOA page of the MHSAs website at [www.mhsa.org](http://www.mhsa.org).

Region #1 Kalispell	755-5666	Randy Saunier	Lincoln, Flathead, Sanders
Region #2 Missoula	728-6001	Doug McAlear	Missoula, Granite, Ravalli, Lake, Mineral
Region #3 Butte	497-6408	Bob Rowling	Silver Bow, Deer Lodge, Beaverhead, Madison, Whitehall, Deerlodge
Region #4 Havre	265-4941	Dave Peterson	Hill, Blaine, Phillips, Toole, Liberty
Region #5 Great Falls	736-5506	Tom Lorang	Cascade, Choteau, Teton, Pondera, Glacier, Geysers, Raynesford
Region #6 Bozeman	587-4871	KC Barnhardt	Gallatin, Park, Meagher, Harrison, Ennis

**Slide 8**

Region #7 Billings	252-0997	Harold Olson	Yellowstone, Sweet Grass, Carbon, Golden Valley, Big Horn, Stillwater, Musselshell
Region #8 Sidney	433-6846	Frank Difonzo	Richland, McCone, Valley, Roosevelt, Sheridan, Daniels, Dawson, Wibaux
Region #9 Miles City	233-3615	Bruce Shipp	Custer, Rosebud, Carter, Powder River, Prairie, Garfield, Treasure, Fallon
Region #10	Lewistown 428-2341	George Maruska	Fergus, Judith Basin, Wheatland, Petroleum
Region #11	Helena 439-6379	Larry Holman	Broadwater, Jefferson, Lewis & Clark, Powell, Boulder

**Slide 9** General information concerning the Montana Officials Association includes the following:

Official dues are \$60.00 for one sport and \$30.00 for each additional sport.

If you have changed your address please notify us of your new address so we can make sure our mailings reach you. We can be reached at 442-6010 or you can go to [www.mhsa.org](http://www.mhsa.org) – click on MOA – click on “Change of Address” to access the form. All MOA mailings are sent third class and the post office will not forward third class mail even if you have filed a change of address card.

As an official, if you eject a player or coach from a contest, you must report the ejection to the MHSAs office within 48 hours. You can fax the report to 442-8250 or email it to the staff member presenting the rules portion of this clinic.

- Slide 10** This year's exam dates for all sports are listed on this slide. If you are an official who plans to test up, you must provide a written request to upgrade to the MOA office at least 20 days prior to the test date.  
2008-09 exam dates:  
Football, Soccer & Volleyball - August 26, 2008.  
Upgrade letters due by August 6, 2008  
Basketball and Wrestling – December 1, 2008  
Upgrade letters due by November 11, 2008  
Softball – March 23, 2009  
Upgrade letters due by March 3, 2009  
You can access the request form on our website – [www.mhsa.org](http://www.mhsa.org) on the MOA page.
- Slide 11** The MOA Regional Directors and MHSAs Executive Board approved a fees increase for all MOA contests this year.  
Varsity contest fees will go from \$50.00 to \$55.00 per contest.  
Sub varsity contest fees will go from \$30.00 to \$33.00 per contest.  
All other regular and post season fees can be viewed, and a hard copy printed, at [mhsa.org](http://mhsa.org) on the MOA page.
- Mileage has increased from 48.5 cents to 50.5 cents per mile. Per diem is 8 cents per mile so the driver would receive 58.5 cents for mileage and per diem and any rider would receive the 8 cents per diem for regular season events.
- For post season events, the driver is paid 50.5 cents per mile and the per diem for the driver and passenger is dependent on whether they commute to the tournament site or stay over night at the tournament site.
- As a reminder:  
Coaches and administrators, please be certain this information reaches your business office to ensure proper payment of officials; AND  
Officials, please be certain to review your checks to ensure you are receiving proper payment.
- And now we'll return to MOA Commissioner Mark Beckman for this year's MOA Handbook and Uniform Changes.
- Slide 12** Thanks Theresa. We are very fortunate to have Theresa Stanisich serving as MOA coordinator – she is an excellent employee who is very well versed in the day to day operations of the MOA. Also the eleven members who represent you on the MOA Board are very hard working, conscientious individuals who I can assure you review each and every proposal thoroughly and make well informed decisions regarding MOA issues.
- The following are regulations and procedures that have been approved by the MOA Regional Directors and by the MHSAs Executive Board to be enacted this year.
- Slide 13** Beginning last year, background checks were done for all MOA registrations. The background checks were completed in-house through several public internet background checks and there will be no additional cost to the officials.
- All prospective officials applications will include a background check and random checking of the current membership may occur.
- Slide 14** The following conviction status policy has been implemented for all officials:  
An individual who is convicted of: (a) a felony involving the use, possession or sale of a controlled substance within the last ten years or (b) a crime involving the use or threatened use of violence against a person within the last ten years, is prohibited from membership in the MOA;
- Slide 15** The MOA and MHSAs Executive Board clarified that an individual who is convicted of a crime involving a minor child at anytime is subject to lifetime suspension from membership in the MOA.  
Also the process for appeal was clarified for sections (a) and (b) – the Executive Director or his/her designee will review any information submitted by an applicant or others, regarding criminal history and make an individual and confidential determination with regard to the official's status.

- Slide 16** In regard to section (c) - Reinstatement – Following ten (10) years from the date of conviction or deferred imposition, an individual permanently prohibited from membership pursuant to a crime involving a minor child may apply to the MHSA Executive Board for reinstatement upon a showing by clear and convincing evidence that the individual is not a threat to minor children and is otherwise qualified for MOA membership.
- Slide 17** Beginning with the 2008-09 season, the MOA will offer mechanics clinics in football and basketball. This clinic requirement can be satisfied by attending one of the several MOA approved clinics offered around the state, attendance at the “train the trainer” clinic offered by the MOA at the annual MCA convention in August or by verification from the pool that an official has attended and received credit for the MOA supplied mechanics study clubs presided over by a certified mechanics “trainer”.
- Slide 18** Each trainer must be recertified concurrent with the printing of each new NFHS rules officials’ manual (generally every other year).  
Failure to complete the rules and/or mechanics clinic for their sport renders an official ineligible for any postseason contest. Also, upgrading will be denied for a one-year period for failure to complete both the current year rules and mechanics clinics. Basketball and Football are the only sports requiring mechanics clinics at this time.  
Mechanics clinics for soccer, volleyball, softball and wrestling will be made available in future years.
- Slide 19** A joint venture strategy for MOA members to join the Montana Coaches Association (MCA) as an associate member and receive selected benefits associated with their MCA membership was implemented last year.
- Over 15 percent of the registered officials joined the MCA so far this year. The dues collected will help to fund mechanics clinics, beginning this year to be held in conjunction with the MCA yearly convention held in Great Falls. The idea behind this program is to focus on mechanics training in all sports.
- The MCA card will also grant admission to regular season athletic contests of participating high schools and colleges.
- If you have any questions regarding mechanics training or joining the MCA, please call the MOA Office at 442-6010 or email Theresa Stanisich – MOA coordinator at [tstanisich@mhsa.org](mailto:tstanisich@mhsa.org)
- Slide 20** Other actions:  
The MOA requires that only MOA members in good standing are assigned to work all varsity regular season contests in all classifications and *the MOA recommends that only MOA officials in good standing are assigned to work all sub-varsity regular season contests.*  
Three officials are required for all varsity soccer contests.  
Reminder – case books will be sent to officials every other year.
- Slide 21** For state soccer, a flat driver’s mileage will be utilized once again this year.  
Officials who commute daily from their home city to the tournament city or who alternate during the duration of the tournament between a daily commute and an overnight stay will receive one travel allowance per round trip commute (maximum 150 miles per round trip) at the current prescribed mileage rate. Officials making more than one commute per day will only be compensated for a single commute.
- Slide 22** New eye wear requirements  
Except in cases where a prescription is necessary, officials working MHSA sanctioned outdoor contests shall adhere to the following requirements for wearing sunglasses or other eye wear:
- Slide 23**
- 1) Must be lightweight and functional
  - 2) Must not distract from the rest of the uniform
  - 3) Must have strong frames which allow for a maximized field of vision
  - 4) Must fit properly for minimum movement on the face
  - 5) Multi-colored and reflective lenses are not allowed
  - 6) Lanyards, if used, shall be solid black in color.

- Slide 24** Other reminders on some general uniform information:  
An American flag, if worn, will be worn on the left shoulder.  
Jewelry, except wedding bands, a watch if necessary, and medical alert bracelets, shall not be worn while officials are working.
- Slide 25** Embroidered MOA patches are acceptable – but it is mandatory that the patch be the same style, font and size as the MHSА/MOА patch and have black lettering with white background. In addition, only MOА members in good standing are authorized to display the MOА patch on the uniform.
- Slide 26** MOА Policy requires that all officials must follow and use the mechanics and signals that are in the National Federation’s Rule Book and Officials’ Manual. All officials must understand that personal interpretations of the rules have a negative impact on the game. The rules are written to provide a balance between offense and defense, minimize risks to participants, promote the sound tradition of the game and promote fair play. Individual philosophies and deviations from the rules as written, negatively impact the basic fundamentals and tenants of the rules. Officials must be consistent in the application of all rules.
- Now I would like to turn it over to:  
*Scott McDonald*, MHSА Assistant Director, who will be presenting the 2008 *Volleyball/Cross Country* Rules Clinic;
- Slide 27** I would like to welcome all coaches, administrators, and officials to another season of Montana High School Volleyball and to the 2008-09 MHSА Volleyball Rules Clinic.
- My name is Scott McDonald. I’m an MHSА Assistant Director and the volleyball contact at the MHSА Office.
- I can be reached by calling 442-6010, by faxing 442-8250, or by e-mailing [smcdonald@mhsa.org](mailto:smcdonald@mhsa.org).
- If you have any volleyball questions or concerns, please call, fax, or e-mail them to me.
- Slide 28** Additional MOА volleyball information: Again this year, six study clubs are required of all Volleyball officials.
- You should have already received your National Federation Preseason Volleyball Guide, which was sent with your rulebooks. The Volleyball Guide is a great reference manual explaining rule changes, points of emphasis, and giving officials helpful tips.
- This is a reminder to officials to review the MOА Handbook for important information that pertains to them. The MOА Handbooks will be sent to you soon, but you can see a copy of the information if you go to [mhsa.org](http://mhsa.org) and click on MOА then click on Handbook.
- Also, MOА Policy requires that all officials must follow and use the mechanics and signals that are in the National Federation’s Volleyball Officials’ Manual. We are trying to create consistency among all of the State’s Volleyball officials.
- Slide 29** The first impression the official makes will be through appearance. Proper uniform is expected and required. For the 2008 Volleyball Season all MOА Volleyball Officials must wear a solid white short-sleeved collared polo shirt, solid black pants, athletic solid-black colored shoes and black socks and all officials must wear an MOА patch or they may have an embroidered patch as long as the embroidered patch is the same style font and size as the MHSА/MOА patch and has black lettering with white background.
- Slide 30** Adults involved in high school activities have a commitment to providing the best possible opportunities for students. Coaches and officials are encouraged to work through their local MOА Regional Directors if they have officiating concerns or issues. However, feel free to call the MHSА/MOА office when assistance is needed.

- Slide 31** The following wording was added to Item K, Section XIV of the MOA/MHSA Handbooks- *“Pools or individual officials shall not provide, either in writing or verbally, any information regarding availability of officials for postseason assignment to any voting member school(s) or coach(s).”*
- Slide 32** Last season a few schools didn't understand the following rule, so we want all coaches to understand the MHSA rule for sub-varsity players playing in varsity matches. In the MHSA Handbook—page 184, #9—it states: “The Association prohibits students of member schools from entering a preliminary contest and then starting in the varsity contest the same day, except in Class C when there are insufficient non-varsity players to play a junior varsity contest, Class C schools may, by mutual consent of the coaches involved, play no more than two (2) varsity starters in the JV contest.”  
Also, a team must start all matches (varsity or sub-varsity) with six players. If because of an insufficient number of sub-varsity players, a team can't start a sub-varsity match with six players, you must request permission to start a sub-varsity match with fewer than six players from Mark Beckman, the MHSA Executive Director. If you have questions about these rules, please call the MHSA Office.
- Slide 33** The MHSA Executive Board approved the following:  
Added to Section (6) Coaching/Practice Regulations in the MHSA Handbook: Only students who meet all MHSA eligibility (enrollment, age, semesters, academics, physical examination, etc) are eligible to practice with and participate on member school teams. Exception: students who are eligible in every way except academics may participate in practice if the school allows.
- Slide 34** MHSA guidelines don't require a school to take part in any contests or athletic events, but once entered, teams are obligated to participate in a contest or athletic event to its normal conclusion unless the contest is terminated by mutual consent of the school officials involved due to unusual weather or game conditions, or situations which could be hazardous to participants or spectators. Any coach is prohibited from unilaterally refusing to play.  
  
If a school fails to complete contests or athletic events that they have entered, the violating school would be subject to penalties as deemed appropriate and necessary by the MHSA Executive Director.
- Slide 35** The MHSA considers sport bras a foundation garment and are not subject to the undergarment rule of being a single color similar to the predominant color of the uniform top.  
The MHSA prohibits any use of tobacco, alcohol or other mood altering drugs during competition. Violation will cause the coach or participant to be disqualified from further participation in that contest.
- Slide 36** MHSA Handbook changes for this year:  
Cascade and Fort Benton are moving from the 6B to the 1B and Jefferson and Broadwater are moving from the 6B to the 5B. With these changes, Class B Volleyball will have three Divisions this 2008-09 school year with districts 1B and 2B making up the Northern Division, District 3B , 4B and 5B making up the Southern Division and Districts 6B and 7B making up the Western Division. The Class B Volleyball Realignment and Post Season Seeding Information for the 2008-09 School Year can be viewed by going to [mhsa.org](http://mhsa.org), click on volleyball, than click on the appropriate link.  
For the past few years we have had a great All Class State Volleyball Tournament, and again this year that Tournament will be in Bozeman at the Montana State University Fieldhouse, November 20, 21, and 22.

- Slide 37** For the 2008 volleyball season, the libero player can serve and can be used for all levels of play at all regular and post season matches.  
 During this year's varsity volleyball matches, adult line judges will be required again. High school age or students below the high school level will not be allowed to be line judges for varsity volleyball matches, which utilize a (3) out of (5) match format and play a rally scoring system. It is recommended for sub-varsity matches that adult line judges be used, but this is not a requirement.  
 To assure quality officiating at all volleyball matches, Item 16 on page 287 of the MOA/MHSA Handbooks now state: two officials are required for all varsity volleyball contests. Two officials are recommended for all sub-varsity volleyball contests.  
 Again this year, 8th graders will be allowed to participate in high school volleyball, if the school does not have at least eight eligible high school players, the school completes and sends to the MHSA the written request form for 8th grade participation and permission for a 8th grader to participate in high school volleyball is granted by the MHSA Executive Director. If you need further information on this issue, contact Mark Beckman.  
 During the pre-season and regular season, in an effort to allow athletes a chance to recover from workouts, the MHSA is recommending that the practice guidelines found on pages 39 and 40 of the MHSA Handbook be followed. These guidelines will allow an athlete to rest both mentally and physically.
- Slide 38** All athletic coaches (paid or volunteer) at all levels (fresh, soph, jr, varsity) must take and pass the MHSA Coaches Education program.  
 The website is listed, and each user will determine his or her own password to login. The coach's password must be remembered. The testing curriculum will also change with each login. See the coaches' education website for more details.  
 The coaches education certification is good for three years and the MHSA strongly recommends that this certification be completed by all coaches before the start of the season.  
 If coaches haven't completed the program – the school and coach can be liable – since the program is mandatory. If an injury occurs at practice or during a meet and a lawyer is contacted – the attorney will usually contact our office and ask two things – did the coach complete the annual rules clinic and did the coach complete the mandatory coaches education program?  
 Schools are required to complete and send the Coaches Education Certification form, which lists all coaches and whether they have completed the program, to the MHSA or be subject to penalties if not submitted.
- Slide 39** Following are the 2008-09 National Federation's Volleyball Rule changes and related information:
- Slide 40** Rule 1-6-2 has been changed to allow a team to have more than one captain at the pre-match conference. This change more accurately reflects what many states (including Montana) already permit by allowing more than one captain to attend the pre-match conference as many teams have co-captains. The head coach and captain(s) from each team must attend the pre-match conference. Remember by MHSA guidelines, the coin flip is done prior to the timed warm-up. After the coin flip, the warm-up period will be started with the rest of the pre-match conference information presented.
- Slide 41** A change in Rule 5-1-1 eliminates the term "assistant scorer" and replaces it with "libero tracker" which more easily identifies the position and its responsibilities. The Libero tracker along with the scorer, timer and line judges are the assistant officials for the match. The libero tracker must sit next to the official scorer and use the libero tracking sheet to track all libero replacements and all other substitutions. Remember that libero replacements are unlimited and do not count as one of the maximum 18 substitutions allowed per game. Ideally, the home team is responsible for supplying a person to be the libero tracker for the match, however, **if a school does not use the libero player**, the school that does use the libero must provide the official libero tracker for the match. This must be clearly established prior to a team traveling to a match. If a traveling team is to provide the libero tracker, the school must know this well in advance.  
 If you would like a copy of the libero tracking sheet, a copy of the libero tracker duties or an example of tracking the libero with the libero serving, go to [www.mhsa.org](http://www.mhsa.org); click on volleyball and click on the appropriate link.
- Slide 42** In an effort to reflect current terminology, all references to referee and umpire in the NFHS Volleyball Rules Book will be changed to first referee and second referee, respectively. High school volleyball officials have gradually been describing their positions as first and second referees or R1 and R2.  
 This change in terminology more accurately reflects the current terminology in the sport of volleyball.

- Slide 43** The use of flags by the line judges has been optional for quite some time. Previously the rule did not clarify which party determined the use of flags...the home coach, the officials, the conference, the state association? A change in Rule 5-8-4 clarifies the state association shall have the responsibility to determine how the use of flags shall be implemented if they are used. By determining that the use of flags is by state association adoption, there can now be consistency statewide to use or not use flags. Currently, Montana has chosen not to adopt the use of flags by line judges.
- Slide 44** Just a reminder, the wearing of jewelry in warm-ups as well as during competition is prohibited. If a referee observes a player in warm-ups wearing jewelry, a coach of that player shall be notified of the player wearing jewelry and have her withdraw from participating until the jewelry is removed. It is preferred the contact be with the head coach. There is no further action necessary unless the player does not remove the jewelry and is charged with unsporting conduct with a card issued at the start of game 1. Remember that tape can't be used to cover jewelry including hair pins, metal barrettes or earrings.
- Slide 45** Because the illustration in last year's rule book had retained the old mechanic for the line violation signal while the description accurately described the proper mechanic, in this slide you are just being reminded of the proper signal given by the line judge for a line violation which is to extend the arm and point with the index finger toward the line where the violation occurred.
- Slide 46** A difficult task for the first referee is determining whether or not the libero is attacking the ball when it is completely above the height of the net and completes the attack. R1 needs to scan the playing area before the match from the first referee's platform. This will help to get a visual of the net and surroundings clearly above the net. R1 needs to recognize the libero is making the play, where the ball is in relation to the net and at the moment of contact determine if the ball is completely above the net and results in a completed attack.
- Slide 47** Rule 12-2-7 states that non-playing team members shall remained seated on the bench during a game. It is not acceptable by rule, to have players standing in the bench area while the ball is in play as illustrated in MechaniGram A. It is legal for a substitute to go to a non-playable area to stretch and warm-up without volleyballs before entering the game as illustrated in MechaniGram B. If it appears a player or team is abusing this option to be up off the bench, the second referee should alert the coach of what the referees expect in this regard within preventative officiating. Certainly, if warranted, a team can be penalized for standing with no need to warm-up. The referees' judgment prevails in these matters.
- Slide 48** The libero and replacement may not take a position of continuous standing at the bench waiting to go in. The referees and coaches should work together to set expectations that continuous standing by the libero or replacement should not occur. The libero and replacement may warm-up as any player going into the game. Timing of when entering the game will impact the referee's decision about the libero or replacement returning to the bench. If returning to the game in the next play there may not be a problem, for example, the replacement may need to get a drink, etc. and thus not immediately be seated. If not immediately returning the libero and replacement should be seated. Communication on expectations at the prematch conference can be very helpful in this area so referees, coaches and players know what is expected.
- Slide 49** The following are the 2008-09 major editorial changes.
- Slide 50** Rule 1-2-3 – now states that each team is entitled to a maximum of two time-outs per game.  
Rule 4-1-Pen 1 –Clarifies the referee shall convey directions to players by way of the coach if directing player(s) to remove jewelry
- Slide 51** Rule 5-4-3b(9) – Brought forward from the Officials Manual that the second referee shall check the lineup for each game from his/her lineup card. Once the lineup is verified the libero may now enter the court  
Rule 10-3-5 – Deletes language that the first referee has the sole determination if a player is unconscious or apparently unconscious. The procedure is covered elsewhere in the rules

- Slide 52** Rule 11-4-2 now states: An athlete who is bleeding, has an open wound, has any amount of blood on her uniform, or has blood on her person, shall be directed to leave the activity until the bleeding is stopped, the wound is covered, the uniform and/or body is appropriately cleaned, and/or the uniform is changed before returning to competition.
- Official Signal #9 – Illegal Block/Screening – Changed “arms” to “hands” (Raise both hands to head height...)
- Slide 53** The following are the 2008-09 points of emphasis.
- Slide 54** For risk minimization it is important that players warming up are doing so in a safe fashion. Individuals actively participating in volleyball drills should take into consideration the need to be focused on surroundings to minimize an unnecessary risk of being injured. During warm-up drills, attention to volleyballs being hit and teammates’ movement require all players to be focused on their surroundings. Not being in full uniform, including proper footwear, listening to a music device or using a cell phone increases the risk of a player getting injured. Ultimately the coach is responsible for being sure the players do not report to the court for warm-ups or competition wearing jewelry and that each player is properly attired.
- Slide 55** The game rules do not address auxiliary personnel and their participation but special attention should be given to ensure that auxiliary personnel retrieving volleyballs are wearing appropriate footwear for active participation and electronics such as music devices and cell phones are not being used.
- Slide 56** To be legal, the libero replacement must take place once the ball becomes dead and prior to the whistle and signal for serve. For a replacement which must be completed prior to the whistle/signal for serve – a player can enter the game up to the time the official's arm is out -no penalty. if there is an illegal replacement occurring before the whistle/signal for serve the penalty is unnecessary delay. An example of this would be a libero attempting to replace a player (who is not going to serve next) without sitting out a rally, a second libero entering the same game etc. With the whistle and signal for serve any libero entering the game is an illegal replacement and will be called for an illegal alignment violation that results in a loss of rally/point to opponent.. Once the serve is contacted, and the illegal replacement is still in the game, the violation is also illegal alignment. Coaches must instruct their players to enter the game in a timely fashion to avoid an illegal replacement and the penalty.
- Slide 57** Officials' signals are the main source of communication with coaches, players, fellow officials and fans. Signals are intended to clearly communicate violations and results and should be precise and clearly visible. The referees should not underestimate the importance of their signals. A referee should review the signals and practice, perhaps in front of a mirror, at the beginning of the season to be certain he/she is comfortable with the signals, when a signal should be used and uses the proper mechanics. Signals should also be reviewed during the prematch referees' conference. Special attention should be given to reviewing signals such as the proper technique and hand placement for the line violation (signal #2) and ball lands in bounds (signal #13), as well as the situations in which ball touched (signal #10) and out-of-bounds (signal #14) should be used.
- Slide 58** It is important for the coach and/or medical personnel to always use the proper NFHS Communicable Disease and Skin Infection Procedures found on page 7 of the current Volleyball Rulebook when dealing with blood or body fluids for an injured/ill player. Should a player have an injury or wound that is bleeding, play should be stopped at the earliest possible time and the referees begin an injury timeout. The medical personnel may be able to treat the player on the court or the bench area. Should the player have blood, for example, on the uniform that cannot be properly cleaned courtside, it may require the uniform to be changed. In this case as we see in the illustration, the medical personnel should take the player to the locker room or area appropriate to change the uniform. There is no penalty if a player's number changes on the roster due to having to change the uniform top as a result of blood/body fluid.

- Slide 59** It is important that as the popularity of the sport of volleyball grows and the stands fill with more fans, we take time to educate the fans of conduct that is good for high school volleyball. Good sporting conduct is an integral part of the interscholastic volleyball program. The rules of volleyball state that any type of cheering, yelling, or other actions which are done in a manner to disconcert, be derogatory or taunting toward the opposing team or a specific player is considered inappropriate. Cheering and other support should always be positive. Inappropriate behavior, if not addressed allows a loss of respect for the game and the players. Here you see the fans trying to intimidate the opponent while serving. Fans think by cheering against the other team or a player that they are doing a good thing for their team, but in fact they are hurting the game and this type of behavior should not be allowed. Players and coaches should let their fans know the importance of cheering for them and enjoying and rewarding their good plays.
- Slide 60** The referees in some situations must address fan behavior. What becomes a challenge is what type of conduct warrants certain responses from the referees. Does the noise from the fans on each contact by opponents cross the line...most likely not. Host management and referees should all work together to create the best environment possible for the competition. The referees should discuss with the host management how any incident needing attention shall be handled prior to the start of the match.
- Slide 61** Host management can be of tremendous assistance in maintaining a positive playing atmosphere and curtailing fan behavior that is taunting, baiting or demeaning by monitoring the game to maintain the right atmosphere that encourages cheering positively for your team. On those rare occasions, there are incidents that occur which must cease immediately and not be repeated. Here the referee will stop play, have host management address the problem and play shall not resume until the situation is resolved. It is very important for referees and host management to set the right atmosphere that encourages cheering positively for your team.
- Slide 62** Having the libero uniform be of sharp contrasting color to teammates' uniforms continues to be a problem. It is essential that the top is in sharp contrasting color to the color(s) used in the uniform top of the libero's teammates. If the regular uniform contains multi-colors or colorful patterns it may be wise for the libero to be in a single solid color top different and in contrast to the regular team uniform. The libero must wear a uniform shirt or jersey that is in distinct COLOR contrast to shirts worn by other members of the team and must be recognized from all angles as being in clear contrast to and distinct from the other members of the team. The style and trim of the libero's shirt or jersey may differ from her teammates', but her shorts must be like-colored to her teammates. If a striped libero shirt is used, it should not have any color that appears on more than 25 percent of the body of the uniform worn by non-libero players. In determining the body of the uniforms, the sleeves and collar should be ignored. When using home and away uniforms, if the colors are similar (dark green for home and black for away) the libero top would not be legal thus reverse colors may not work. Coaches are ultimately responsible for placing the players in legal uniforms so when purchasing uniforms the libero uniform requirements must be taken into consideration. Here you see a libero uniform in contrasting color to those of teammates. Remember, if a style of regular uniform is being worn which has a pattern of colors it may be wise to consider a single contrasting color top for the libero.
- Slide 63** Here are two uniform tops using a red and white color scheme. Let's say the uniform with the white front is home and the uniform with the red front is away. If the coach tries to have the libero use the opposite uniform this would not be legal as her uniform contains same color found in 25% or more of her teammates uniform. In addition, the design of front and back being reverse colors would not allow the libero to be immediately recognized from all angles. If the first referee observes the white front of 5 players and the red back of the 6<sup>th</sup> player it would be easy to think the "red" top was the libero when in fact it is an eligible front row player turned a different direction. This quick glance could cause confusion on the part of the referees. Coaches can certainly buy these uniforms but in so doing, they must make other arrangements for the libero's uniform.

- Slide 64** Rule 7-1-2 continues to state that no later than two minutes prior to the end of the timed prematch warmup, and two minutes following each game, each head coach shall submit to the scorer the accurate, written lineup listing the uniform number for the starting players in the **proper serving order** with the libero listed if used. The lineup shall not be submitted in floor position order. The submission of the lineup in serving order should help the scorer in recording the proper serving order in the score sheet. The first server should always be listed first on the lineup sheet, regardless of whether the team is serving or receiving. The second referee must identify the serving and receiving teams when transferring this information to their lineup card to ensure the team's proper lineup by floor position prior to the start of each game and must verify that the team's lineup has been entered correctly on the score sheet to eliminate scorekeeping mistakes. **The libero must still be designated and listed on the lineup sheet as an additional player.** This slide shows an example of the new style of lineup.  
If you would like a copy of the MHSA revised roster and line-up card, go to [www.mhsa.org](http://www.mhsa.org); click on volleyball and click on the appropriate link.
- Slide 65** The Libero when used and assuming all the pre-game requirements are taken care of (libero designated on lineup before the game, different color jersey, proper uniform, etc.), shall again be allowed to serve in one position in the serving order. The libero can only serve in one position in the serving order. Once the libero serves in that position of the serve order for a game, the libero can only serve in that position for the rest of that game. The position in serve order has to be recorded on the tracking sheet and score sheet when a libero serves. The designation for the libero for all matters related to serving is a triangle. When the libero is going to serve it is good preventative officiating for the second referee to turn and verbally inform the scorer and libero tracker, "libero serving."
- Slide 66** Here the libero, #21, is serving in the fourth position in the serve order. On the libero's 1st serve, the scorekeeper puts a triangle on that rotation position. This is the only position in which the libero may serve in this game. Point 8 was scored while the libero was serving and is so marked with a triangle on the individual and running score. The libero had a loss of rally after point 8 and is also marked by a triangle.  
  
If you would like a copy of the scorekeeper duties with libero serving, go to [www.mhsa.org](http://www.mhsa.org); click on volleyball and click on the appropriate link.
- Slide 67** On this Libero tracking sheet, as soon as the libero goes to the Right Back position and then to the service area to serve, the libero tracker places a triangle around that position in the serve order. In this slide it is the fourth position in serving rotation.  
  
If you would like a copy of the libero tracker duties with libero serving, go to [www.mhsa.org](http://www.mhsa.org); click on volleyball and click on the appropriate link.
- Slide 68** If the libero is in the game and the coach wants the libero to serve, the libero must go directly to the service position when replacing the player rotating into the service position. In this situation, there does not have to be a rally between libero replacements if the libero serves the next rally and the libero does not leave the court and then comes back on to the court and goes to the Right Back position for serve.
- Slide 69** The above illustration shows that the libero does not leave the court and then comes back on to the court if the libero is going to the Right Back position for serve if already on the court. #2 replaces L as L rotates to the LF position. L is then replacing #7 who would be rotating to Right Back position but instead is coming off the court. L moves to serve from the Left Back position directly to Right Back and the service area. #2 and #7 are replacements for the libero and these replacements must take place **only by the sideline in front of the libero's team bench between the attack line and the end line.** It is important for these libero replacements and other substitutions to be easily distinguished from each other.  
Officials and scorers may think they are missing something because they will see 2 teammates switching on and off the court. Second referee and libero trackers will need to get used to the idea of 2 teammates in the same-color uniform top switching on-off the court behind the attack line. This happens because the previous right front will be coming off the court and a teammate will go in to take the place of where the libero would have been. It looks like a double replacement simply because the libero does not have to leave the court and sit out one rally in this one instance where the libero will be the next server.

**Slide 70** This is what the tracking sheet would look like. The libero tracker shows that #2 is replacing the libero as the libero moved to what is the LF position in this example because the player replacing the libero must be the same player that the libero replaced when she last entered the game. An easy way to ensure this is to make sure on the tracking sheet that the number of the player who was replaced by the libero must be on either side of the libero replacement. The libero is then replacing #7 to serve.

**Slide 71** Also, it is possible the libero has been on the bench and will be coming in directly to serve and it will look like a simple replacement. An example of this is if a libero is serving the opening point of the game. This is allowed — however, the team still has to follow the libero replacement protocol. If a libero is going to start the game, the second referee has to check the lineup for both teams first, while the libero waits off the court, and then roll the ball to the server, then allow the libero replacement to enter the game to serve.

**Slide 72** So the question becomes, once the libero serves, must the libero always serve?

The answer is No. The libero is not required to serve. In fact, the coach could:

1. Have the starter serve the next term of service,
2. Replace the libero with the starting player while in the middle of the term of service or;
3. Replace the libero and then substitute within the same term of service or the next term of service.

**Slide 73** The coach does not have to specify that the libero will serve on the lineup sheet  
The coach still has to indicate the number of the libero for that game on the lineup sheet  
There can be a different player designated as the libero for each game for the match

**Slide 74** Lastly, communicable disease and skin infection continue to be a concern in all activities. Those involved in volleyball matches must follow the procedures found on pages 7, 49 and 50 in the current Volleyball Rules Book for techniques to be used in the prevention and treatment of any communicable disease or skin infection, especially considering the emergence of the potentially more serious infection with Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA). Listed below are some universal hygiene protocol that players and parents should know and follow:

Shower immediately after all competition and practice  
Wash all workout clothes after practice  
Wash personal gear, such as knee pads, periodically  
Don't share towels or personal hygiene products with others  
Refrain from cosmetic shaving

**Slide 75** After viewing this presentation, if you have questions or suggestions please email:  
[smcdonald@mhsa.org](mailto:smcdonald@mhsa.org)

Find the volleyball section of the MHSА Handbook on the MHSА website at [www.mhsa.org](http://www.mhsa.org).then proceed to the volleyball page.

Please continue to the next screen to verify your completion of this clinic requirement.

**Slide 76** It is vital that your clinic attendance be recorded. You must verify that you have viewed this entire presentation in order to meet your clinic requirement for this activity.

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Thank you and have a great 2008 Volleyball Season.