



2010-2011 MHSAA Online Volleyball Clinic Handouts

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

Coaches: *Slide 1 is 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 MHSAA and Commissioner of the MOA. The MHSAA/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. If you have any questions or comments regarding this format please contact Brian Michelotti at the MHSAA office; his email address is bmichelotti@mhsaa.org.
- 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 presentation 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 MHSAA office with any questions or comments concerning the online presentations of the MHSAA/MOA rules clinics.
- Slide 2** This MHSAA/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.
- 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 3** 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@mhsaa.org or you can call me at 442-6010.
- Slide 4** 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 clinic information will be presented that includes rule changes that have been approved by the MOA Board and the MHSAA Executive Board during those meetings.
- Slide 5** The Directors serve a three year term and the MOA Board clarified 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 6** 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 MHSAA website at www.mhsaa.org.
- Slide 7** (Regional Directors' list continued)
- Slide 8** General information concerning the Montana Officials Association includes the following:
- Official dues are \$65.00 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.mhsaa.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 MHSAA 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 9** 2010-2011 exam dates:
Football, Soccer & Volleyball Upgrade Exam Date - August 24, 2010
Upgrade letters due by August 5, 2010
Basketball and Wrestling Upgrade Exam Date – November 29, 2010
Upgrade letters due by November 10, 2010
Softball – Upgrade Exam Date March 21, 2011
Upgrade letters due by March 2, 2011
All prospective officials 'exams will be provided online beginning this year and instructions will be sent to those individuals explaining the process for online examinations.
Officials can download a request for upgrade form at www.mhsa.org
- Slide 10** Game Fees will increase this year to the following:
Varsity contest fees are \$60.00 per contest.
Sub varsity contest fees are \$36.00 per contest.
All other regular and post season fees can be viewed, and a hard copy printed, at mhsa.org on the MOA page. including the new fee schedules for football jamborees and for wrestling mixers.
- Mileage has decreased from 55 cents per mile to 50 cents per mile per IRS regulations. Per diem is 8 cents per mile so the driver would receive 58 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 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:
If you are a coaches or an administrator, 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 11** Thanks Theresa. As I have stated before, 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 MHSa Executive Board to be enacted this year and some reminders regarding other MOA policies and procedures.
- Slide 12** All prospective officials applications will include a background check and random checking of the current membership may occur.
- The background checks are completed in-house through several public internet background checks and there is no additional cost to the officials. The conviction status policy is listed in the MOA Handbook.
- Slide 13** During the last two years, the MOA offered mechanics clinics in football, basketball, and volleyball. Also this year the MOA offered a mechanics clinic in wrestling and will conduct its second football mechanics rules clinics. These clinic requirements 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 14** 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, Football, Volleyball and Wrestling are the only sports requiring mechanics clinics at this time. Mechanics clinics for soccer and softball will be made available in future years.
- Slide 15** 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 13 percent of the registered officials joined the MCA so far this year. The dues collected will help to fund the mechanics clinics 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

- Slide 16** Other actions:
Guidelines for MHSA Pools addition – Pools may provide information regarding availability of eligible officials for post season assignment to a district or division representative for distribution to schools in those districts or divisions, when requested in writing. Individual officials shall not provide such information. The Regional Directors are allowing pools to provide a list of officials and the dates those officials are available for post season assignment to a district or divisional representative to distribute to the schools in their respective districts or divisions allowing coaches to vote for officials who are available on each weekend of post season competition.
- Slide 17** Study Club requirements – For football and basketball an official must attend six (6) study clubs - reduced from eight (8). All other study club requirements remain the same.
- Rules Clinics – if an official is to receive credit for attendance, they must complete the clinic in the format provided *prior to the published deadline*.
- Addition to Sexual Harassment /Sexual Intimidation Section – now includes electronic communication or online postings.
- Slide 18** Misconduct by Officials addition –
4. Engaging in derogatory, abusive, demeaning, and/or racially or sexually insensitive remarks through electronic communication or online postings toward any student-athlete, coach, fan or other person associated with an MHSA sanctioned contest.
- Slide 19** Payment of Officials – there are only two ways that officials can be paid for contests
1) All officials assigned be paid before the contest with a check issued by the member school or;
2) If a member school and the local officials pool agree to other methods of payment (still payment to the individual official – not to the pool) the official must be paid within five (5) working days of the contest. Pools cannot receive payments from the schools to distribute to individual members as this would make the officials pool the employer, no longer having independent contractor status and subject the pool to unemployment and workman's compensation obligations.
Addition – Any changes in the payment process must be approved by the Regional Director.
- Slide 20** 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.
- Eye wear requirements - except in cases where a prescription is necessary, officials working MHSA sanctioned outdoor contests shall adhere to the six requirements for wearing sunglasses or other eye wear listed in the MOA Handbook on page 283 – Section D.
- Slide 21** Embroidered MOA patches are acceptable – but it is mandatory that the patch be the same style, font and size as the MHSA/MOA patch and have black lettering with white background. In addition, only MOA members in good standing are authorized to display the MOA patch on the uniform.
- Slide 22** Every sport has new NFHS Rules regarding concussions.
- The MHSA has expanded the scope to include possible concussions and other serious injuries. The new rule and MHSA procedures will be explained in detail during the presentation of new NFHS rules.
- The MHSA Return to Play Rule is as follows:
- Slide 23** Section (4) Return to Play
A participant in any MHSA sanctioned sport who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion or balance problems) or other serious injury shall be immediately removed from the game, evaluated by the coaching staff in regard to the nature of the injury, and if it is determined to be a possible concussion or other serious injury, the player shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health-care professional (MD, DO, PAC or NP).
- Slide 24** Given that most concussed athletes do not lose consciousness, yet they often show other common signs, symptoms and behaviors of concussion, the NFHS and the MHSA strongly believes that officials must be empowered to remove these athletes from play, thus protecting them from potential further injury.
- Slide 25** Neither officials, nor coaches, are expected to “diagnose” a concussion, as that is the job of an appropriate health-care professional. The previous rule called upon officials to determine “apparently unconscious” which appeared to expect some level of medical judgment. Officials are now being asked to use their best judgment again in observing the signs, symptoms and behaviors of a possible concussion (listed later in this presentation) or serious injury, but are no longer being asked to make what could be perceived to be a medical opinion.

- Slide 26** The game official is not responsible for the sideline evaluation or management of the athlete after he or she is removed from play.
- The responsibility of further evaluating and managing the symptomatic athlete falls upon the head coach, appropriate health-care professional or other individual designated by school administrators.
- If an appropriate health-care professional on the sideline determines that the athlete HAS NOT suffered a concussion, the athlete may return to play.
- The official does not need written permission for an athlete to return nor does the official need to verify the credentials of the appropriate health-care professional.
- Slide 27** MOA Policy requires that all officials must follow and use the mechanics and signals that are in the National Federation's Officials' Manual and adhere to all rules and regulations listed in the NFHS rules book for each sport. 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, minimization of risk to participants, promotion of the sound tradition of the game and promotion of fair play. Individual philosophies and deviations from the rules as written, negatively impact the basic fundamentals and tenets of the rules. Officials must be consistent in the application of all rules.
- Now I would like to turn it over to: *Scott McDonald*, MHSAs Assistant Director, who will be presenting the 2010 *Volleyball* Rules Clinic;
- Slide 28** I would like to welcome all coaches, administrators, and officials to another season of Montana High School Volleyball and to the 2010-2011 MHSAs Volleyball Rules Clinic.
- My name is Scott McDonald. I'm an MHSAs Assistant Director and the volleyball contact at the MHSAs Office.
- I can be reached by calling 442-6010, by faxing 442-8250, or by e-mailing smcdonald@mhsa.org.
- If you have any volleyball questions or concerns, please call, fax, or e-mail them to me.
- Slide 29** Last season a few schools didn't understand the following rule, so we want all coaches to understand the MHSAs rule for sub-varsity players playing in varsity matches. In the MHSAs 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 MHSAs Executive Director. If you have questions about these rules, please call the MHSAs Office.
- Slide 30** The MHSAs Executive Board approved the following:
Added to Section (6) Coaching/Practice Regulations in the MHSAs Handbook: Only students who meet all MHSAs 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 31** The following are NFHS Volleyball Rule clarifications.
Rule 3-2-1d requires the uniform to be worn as the manufacturer intended except that velcro straps may be used to shorten the sleeve length.
Rule 3-2-1e states that removal of any part of the uniform in the playing area is unsporting conduct. This includes after warm-ups, players going to their bench and removing their warm-up shirts to change into their uniform tops. Preventing officiating, with a warning to the coach, should be used to help stop this kind of behavior.
- Slide 32** The MHSAs 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.
- Last year we had trouble with schools providing a libero tracker. 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; click on volleyball and click on the appropriate link.

Slide 33 Again this year, 8th graders will be allowed to participate in high school volleyball and the number allowed for participation/practice will be those needed to make a scrimmage type situation for the team. This would be twelve (12) for volleyball. The school still must complete and send to the MHSA the written request form for 8th grade participation and permission for an 8th grader to participate in high school volleyball must be granted by the MHSA Executive Director. If you need further information on this issue, contact Mark Beckman, MHSA Executive Director.

A new 2 out of 3 Dual Volleyball Tournament Format has been approved to start in the 2010 Volleyball Season. For information on how the Dual Volleyball Tournament Format will be implemented, please go to mhsa.org, click on volleyball and scroll down to Dual Volleyball Tournament Format.

Officials Pay for Dual Tournaments is:

Varsity Dual Tournament matches (3 out of 5 matches) \$55.00 (2 out of 3 matches \$36.00)

Subvarsity Dual Tournament matches (3 out of 5 matches) \$33.00 (2 out of 3 matches \$22.00)

Slide 34 The MHSA Executive Board has approved the following that will be used for the 2010 Volleyball Season:

1. No warm-up activities will be allowed in the vicinity of the main playing floor at any time while any volleyball match is in progress. Invitational and dual tournaments would be excluded from this rule. Clarification: If there are two volleyball matches being played in the same gym on two separate floors at the same time, followed by two more matches played in that gym on two separate floors at the same time, the above MHSA volleyball rule would not apply in this situation. The matches would be treated like invitational and dual tournaments and excluded from this MHSA volleyball warm-up rule. This will facilitate matches staying on the time schedule.

2. NFHS Volleyball Rules will be followed requiring that the pre-match conference and coin flip to be completed prior to the starting of the 20 minute warm-up period.

Slide 35 As recommended by the MHSA Athletic Committee and approved by the MHSA Executive Board, for 2010 MHSA Volleyball regular and post season play, a solid white volleyball shall be used for all levels of play which shall include the NFHS authenticating mark. During MHSA post season play, the Mikasa VQ2000 volleyball shall be used. Please share this information with your Volleyball Coach (es) and other appropriate personnel. Should you have any questions or concerns about the above, please do not hesitate to contact Scott McDonald in the MHSA Office.

The MOA Regional Directors have approved that Volleyball Pools may provide information regarding availability of eligible officials for post season assignment to a district or division representative for distribution to schools in those districts or divisions, when requested in writing. Individual officials shall not provide such information.

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 11, 12, and 13.

Slide 36 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 match 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 37 The following are the 2010-11 Volleyball Rule Changes.

Slide 38 A player shall be immediately removed from a match if she exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion or balance problems) and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health-care professional (MD/DO/PAC/NP). The official need only stop play for the injury time-out and the coach and appropriate health-care professional shall evaluate the student. She shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health-care professional. Every sport has new NFHS Rules regarding concussions. The MHSA has expanded the scope to include possible concussions and other serious injuries. The new rule and the MHSA Return to Play Rule procedures are as follows:

Slide 39 MHSA Rules and Regulations item (4) states:

A participant in any MHSA sanctioned sport who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion or balance problems) or other serious injury shall be immediately removed from the game, evaluated by the coaching staff in regard to the nature of the injury, and if it is determined to be a possible concussion or other serious injury, the player shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health-care professional (MD, DO, PAC or NP).

The MHSA has implemented specific procedures for managing possible injury situations during Association activities.

Slide 40 To help in recognizing possible concussions, the most common symptoms are listed in NFHS Rules Books. Symptoms include: headache, fogginess, difficulty concentrating, easily confused, slowed thought processes, difficulty with memory, nausea, lack of energy, tiredness, dizziness, poor balance, blurred vision, sensitivity to light and sounds, or mood changes - meaning the athlete is irritable, anxious or tearful.

Slide 41 Officials, coaches and administrators are being asked to make all efforts to ensure the safety of athletes who participate in MHSBA activities. In regard to players experiencing possible concussions or other serious injuries during MHSBA contests or practices, the procedures outlined in the next several slides have been implemented:

Slide 42 Officials' Responsibilities:

Officials are asked to use their best judgment in observing the signs, symptoms and behaviors of a concussion and other possible serious injuries.

If there is a player that exhibits signs and symptoms of an injury, officials will make coaches aware of the injured player and call an injury time out.

The official should notify the coach by making the following statement:

- "Coach, you need to take a look at this player; he/she is exhibiting signs and symptoms of an injury."

Once the official notifies the coach, it is now the coach's responsibility.

The official does not need written permission for an athlete to return to play nor does the official need to verify the credentials of the appropriate health-care professional.

The decision to return an athlete to competition rests with the coach, after the affected player is evaluated by an appropriate health care professional.

Slide 43 Coaches' Responsibilities:

After the official has notified the coach of the injury and has sent the athlete off of the field or court, or if a coach witnesses an incident in practice, the coach must then make the initial determination of the injury. For instance, if the coach knows that a player is diabetic, and may be experiencing a diabetic episode, the coach should have the student treated appropriately and then return the player to play or practice.

If the coach suspects the athlete is exhibiting the signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion, then the coach must have the player evaluated by an appropriate health-care professional. (MD, DO, NP or PAC)

If an appropriate health-care professional on the sideline determines that the athlete HAS NOT suffered a concussion, the athlete may return to play.

If an appropriate health-care professional is not available to evaluate the athlete, the athlete SHOULD NOT be allowed by the coach to return to play.

In game situations, the official does not need written permission for an athlete to return to play nor does the official need to verify the credentials of the appropriate health-care professional.

Ultimately, the decision to return an athlete to competition or practice rests with the coach, after the affected player is evaluated by an appropriate health care professional.

Slide 44 Administrators' Responsibilities:

Administrators must require all coaches to review and implement this procedure.

Administrators should have regular reviews with their coaching staffs concerning these procedures.

Administrators should require coaches to report all incidents to the administration immediately following the practice or contest. All incidents should be documented.

Administrators must understand the responsibilities that coaches have in the decision to return athletes to play.

Administrators must enforce the return to play language in the MHSBA Rules and Regulations as stated in this presentation. Schools are encouraged to establish policies at the local district level to address concussion and serious injury management. A sample policy is available by contacting Joe Brott, Policy Services Director, at MTSBA. Phone – (406) 442-2180 or email jbrott@mtsba.org

Ultimately, the decision to return an athlete to competition or practice rests with the coach, after the affected player is evaluated by an appropriate health care professional (MD, DO, NP or PAC).

Slide 45 This flow chart summarizes the MHSBA procedures as presented in this clinic. Feel free to pause the clinic to review these steps.

- Slide 46** This presentation and additional resources are available on the MHSAs website. Visit www.mhsa.org and proceed to the Sports Medicine page by using the link on the home page.
- Slide 47** Rule 1-3-1 was changed to clarify when a team commits a fault, the result is a loss of rally and the opponent shall receive a point. This change in language in the rule is minor and has been included to clarify the scoring of a point and the end of the rally.
- Slide 48** Rule 1-7-2 has been revised to state that should the head coach be removed from the premises for unsporting conduct and no other school personnel is present, the match shall be declared a forfeit. By MHSAs guidelines, if the head coach is ejected, an assistant coach or any other school district personnel authorized to supervise students may assume the head coaching responsibilities for the remainder of the contest. If no other authorized school district personnel is on site, the contest will be terminated and a forfeiture declared.
- Slide 49** The libero replacement zone has been a part of the rules for several years but was never defined in Rule 2. This rule change clarifies that the libero replacement zone is the area near the sideline between the attack line and the end line. This inclusion of the definition identifies the exact physical location of the replacement zone on the floor. No identifying lines are required to be placed on the floor.
- Slide 50** Rule 2-new section 5 and rule 9-8-1f now identifies who is considered a non-team member as opposed to a team member. It defines non-team members as officials, media personnel (including equipment), spectators located in a playable area. The clarification is helpful when determining when action such as a replay should occur when there has been interference with a player's legitimate effort to play the ball by a person who is not a team member or various penalties are assessed
- Slide 51** Definitions for team members, teammates and players are now part of rules 6-1 and 6-2. Team members include all school representatives located on or in the team bench area. Team members would include coaches, teammates on the bench, managers, trainers, statisticians, etc. Teammates are simply all those athletes in the same team uniform. Players now refers to those teammates on the playing court in the set at the time. These definitions are helpful since there are penalties and actions related to players and non-players.
- Slide 52** The various types of casts, braces and supports have and continue to undergo change to better address the needs of athletes. The rules, with input from the NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee, have been modified to update rules 4-1 thru 4 which now state:
A guard, cast or brace made of hard and unyielding leather, plaster, pliable (soft) plastic, metal or any other hard substance, shall not be worn on the hand, finger, wrist or forearm, even though covered with soft padding.
Hard and unyielding items (guards, casts, braces, etc.) on the elbow, upper arm or shoulder must be padded with a closed-cell, slow-recovery foam padding no less than ½" thick. An elbow brace shall not extend more than halfway down the forearm
With the improvement in braces, knee and ankle braces, which are unaltered from the manufacturer's original design/production, these items do not require any additional padding than provided by the manufacturer. Should a player want additional padding that is acceptable.
The wearing of a prosthesis, meeting rules requirements, needs only the approval of the state association and the letter of authorization provided to the first referee before competition.
In this illustration you can see in the first PlayPic that wearing a brace, support, cast etc. on the fingers, wrist, hand or forearm is not legal. For specific language on restrictions read Rule 4-1-1. The brace on the knee or elbow are legal in this example.
- Slide 53** The types of devices that may be legally worn in the hair have been expanded in Rule 4-1-6 to include unadorned, flat clips that are no longer than 2 inches in length. The NFHS Volleyball Rules Committee believes that unadorned bobby pins and flat clips do not create concern for a risk of injury and both can be securely fastened in the hair and serve as an efficient means to control a player's hair. Barrettes and other items such as in the third PlayPic are more likely to pose a risk of injury and not remain securely fastened in the hair and are still considered illegal.
- Slide 54** A player may now wear hair devices made of soft material or unadorned bobby pins and flat clips. Here we see a sweat or headband meeting these requirements as well as the bobby pin and flat clip. Hair adornment may also be worn providing it is made of a soft material and no more than 2 inches wide.
- Slide 55** Rule 4-1-8 now places a long standing informal procedure within the rules for the state association and school to follow when an accommodation/modification of the rules for participation is made due to medical, special needs or religious reasons. The protocol is now officially part of the rules and the state association will continue to make the final decision for a reasonable accommodation based on an individual basis for the student involved and within the spirit of the rules.
- Slide 56** A change to Rule 5-3-4e, the end-of-set protocol for the last set in a match, no longer require teams by rule to go directly to the team benches once the R1 visually confirms the score of the final set of the match. The R1 now confirms the score with the R2 then blows the whistle and releases the teams from the end lines. For the 2010 Volleyball Season, once the teams are released by the R1, they will go to their respective team bench and then proceed to shake hands with the other team members.
- Slide 57** Rules 7-1-2 and 10-1-4 now allow substitution requests prior to the start of the set to be permitted and shall be recorded as a regular substitution in that set. In case of an injury or illness to a starting player, a lineup change may be made and no entry shall be charged to the team. Rather than beginning the set with a penalty of a loss of rally/point and confusion for the players and spectators due to an error by the coach when completing the lineup, the head coach is now allowed to request and be granted a substitution prior to the start of the set. This will count as one of the allowable substitutions but the coach is not allowed to change or rearrange the lineup, the position of players on the court and within the serving order.

- Slide 58** Procedure for substitution prior to the start of the set:
 Lineup submitted, deadline for submission has passed and prior to signal for serve and after checking and verifying the lineup for the requesting team, the R2 shall recognize a request and permit the substitution(s). R2 will administer substitution(s) requested following regular substitution procedure
 Situation 2--R2, while checking the lineup, discovers the incorrect player is on the court and does not appear on starting lineup
 R2 has the correct player enter the court and incorrect player leave the court without delay
 A request for substitution may be made and permitted
 R2 completes the lineup check for that team and then administers the substitution following regular substitution procedure
- Slide 59** In this situation—the R2, while checking the lineup, discovers an incorrect player on the court and the number of the player listed on the submitted lineup sheet does not exist (no #12 on team)
- R2 completes the lineup check for that team and notifies the head coach of the violation for submitting inaccurate lineup
 - Confirms the problem/violation with the official and visiting scorers
 - In this case, the player on the court must stay and become the starting player and the lineup is corrected
 - Notifies opposing coach
 - The offending team is penalized loss of rally/point for submitting an inaccurate lineup to start the set
- Slide 60** Although implied, the rules language had not clearly stated that under rules 12-2-8d and 12-2-9d it would be considered unsporting conduct for any team member to address any of the officiating crew (officials, line judges, the scorer, timer and libero tracker) in a disrespectful manner.
- Slide 61** The name for Officials Signal #8 has been changed to just “illegal attack” whether it is an illegal attack on the serve or a violation of a back-row player with an illegal attack, the result of the player action is the same, an illegal attack. It is not necessary for the name of the signal to specify both foul descriptions since the ultimate outcome is an illegal attack.
- Slide 62** There is no change in Officials Signal #6 other than to clarify that the R1 does not need to touch the net when signaling a net foul or net serve and if it is obvious a ball is a net serve, it is not necessary for the R2 to mirror the signal of the R1 and the R2 is not required to touch the net or signal a net serve.
- Slide 63** To enhance the communication between the referees and assist with efficiency in keeping the play moving along, the Ready to Play signal has been included with several other informal signals to be used by the second referee. The second referee signals ready to play to the first referee after an R2 interruption (injury, substitution, time-out or scorekeeping clarification) once the R2 has confirmed both teams are ready to play and the table officials and line judges are ready for play to resume, the R2 moves to the receiving team’s side of the net and makes good eye contact with the R1 and gives the ready to play signal which is to extend the outside arm with elbow slightly bent toward the first referee with open hand and fingers together in a vertical position, chest height.
- Slide 64** The following are the 2010-11 Volleyball Major Editorial Changes.
- Slide 65** In rule 10-2-5a delete the phrase “but enter the sub zone one at a time. During a time-out, it is not necessary for substitutes to enter the sub zone one at a time so this phrase is no longer needed.
 Included in Rule 10-4-2d the procedure that was commonly followed for a libero replacement to enter the set at the end of a time-out
 The addition of the “note” to 12-2-6 serves to clarify that the privilege to stand rests with the head coach and cannot be transferred to another coach.
- Slide 66** The 2010-11 Volleyball Points of Emphasis are:
- Slide 67** The inclusion of the libero in high school competition has been around long enough that some of the more routine rules involving the libero are sometimes overlooked, forgotten or not consistently enforced. Let’s take some time to review some of the basic rules relating to the libero. The libero is a defensive specialist who may only play in the back row and may serve in one rotation, according to Rule 10-4. The player must be designated both on the roster (with L preceding his/her number if it is different from the regular jersey number) and on the written lineup.
- Slide 68** If the lineup has been submitted by the deadline and entered into the official scorebook and the libero was not listed on the lineup, the libero number may not be added and the first set will be played without a libero. The libero may take a position on the court after the original lineup is checked and may only be replaced by the player whom she replaced. One libero replacement may be exercised per rally/dead ball, unless the libero is replacing the right back position and will serve the next rally. Libero replacements do not count as substitutions and they are unlimited. The libero tracker should record all substitutions, libero replacements and should notify the second referee if there is an illegal replacement.
- Slide 69** The replacement must occur during a dead ball prior to the whistle/signal for serve. If the libero is injured or ill and cannot continue play, the head coach may redesignate a new libero player at any time during the rest of the set/match. Redesignation does not need to occur immediately and is at the discretion of the coach. The new libero must wear a libero jersey with a unique number not worn by any other player (see Rule 10-4-3(3)) and will remain the libero for the rest of the set. The original libero may not re-enter the set as a libero or regular player. One of the duties of the second referee is to monitor the libero replacements. For an illegal libero replacement prior to the whistle/signal for serve, an unnecessary delay is charged. After the whistle/signal and/or contact of serve, an illegal alignment is charged to the team and a loss of rally/point is awarded. Reminder the Libero can’t attempt or complete a block.

- Slide 70** One of the duties of the R1 is to judge the legality of the attack by the libero. The rule specifically states that the libero may not return a ball that is completely above the height of the net from anywhere on the court. The key words in the rule are "completely" and "anywhere". The back-row attack rule does not apply to the libero so where the takeoff is executed is irrelevant. In judging the legality of the libero attack, one must look at the path of the ball after contact. If the ball travels in only a downward motion after the contact over the net, the attack was definitely illegal. If the ball rises and then falls before crossing the net, it is likely a legal attack. The farther back in the court the libero is positioned, the more difficult the decision for the referee as to whether or not the ball was completely above the net at the point of contact. If the libero was in front of the attack line, judging the height of the ball in relation to the net would be much easier. One might consider the height of the player in the libero position, whether or not she jumps before or during the attack and the arm motion used. It really does not matter what method the libero uses to contact the ball, but whether or not the ball is completely above the height of the net at the contact and results in a completed attack. Another factor to consider might be the frequency of sets to the libero to execute attacks. If the setter is setting the libero and it appears that she is scoring several "kills" with the attack, the libero might be more of an offensive player and the referee should look closely at the ball and its relationship to the height of the net. Another thing to consider is if the libero is being set during warm ups and if the team is depending on the libero to score several kills or points with her attacking motion during play. Keep in mind also that to whistle a violation of any rule, the referee must see a violation. When in doubt, err to the side of the libero and give her the benefit of the doubt.
- Slide 71** Line judges duties are vitally important to the match. Their duties are listed in detail under Rule 5-8. Signals are illustrated in the back of the NFHS Volleyball Rules Book. It is imperative that line judges be trained, either by the host school or the officials organizations prior to the beginning of the season. It is mandatory that line judges be adults for all varsity matches (*excluding invitational and dual tournament matches*) which utilize a three (3) out of five (5) match format. It is recommended that adult line judges be used for sub-varsity matches and invitational/dual tournaments. Professionalism and impartiality are vital parts of their duties in addition to those listed in the rules. During the match, their only communication should be with the officiating crew. In the unlikely event that any team member makes inappropriate comments to a line judge, that action should be reported to the first or second referee on the next dead ball.
- Slide 72** Prior to the match, the first referee will assign line judges to their positions and should review their duties with them. As R1, don't go over too many items, judge the level of your line judges so you know what and how much to remind them when reviewing responsibilities. The referees should include the line judges in prematch review and remember to talk to them and not around them. The first referee keeps the line judges in the set by looking to them for line/antenna calls. Good eye contact, acknowledgment with a wink, a nod or thumbs up for a good call by the referee keeps the line judge engaged
- Slide 73** When training line judges or serving as a line judge, the FLATS system can be quite helpful. FLATS – an easy way to remember responsibilities and duties of the line judge: F--indicate foot faults by server, L--indicate ball in/out of bounds when it lands on or near a sideline/end line, A--indicate if ball crossing the net is not between antennas, if the ball touches the net or standards outside antennas, or the ball touches antennas, T--indicate if a player touches the ball going out of bounds on her side of net and S--where line judges stand during the set, time-outs, server in left third of service area, etc. Also, the use of flags by the line judges during regular season or post season play is prohibited by MHSA guidelines.
- Slide 74** The NFHS Volleyball Rules include several standard informal signals. These signals are used to enhance the communication between the referees. By standardizing the informal signals, it is easier for officials to work with different individuals and automatically have a good line of communication available to use during the match. The informal signals that the second referee uses to communicate with the first referee are listed on page 75 in the NFHS Volleyball Case Book. Use of informal signals should be decided in the prematch discussion between the referees. The standard informal signals are:
- Set/match point.
 - Four hits.
 - Identifying possible back-row player violation.
 - Position of setter prior to serve.
 - Illegal hit.
 - Ready to Play.
 - Communication of player number involved in a violation to first referee.
- Slide 75** As listed in Rule 5-7, the official timer shall report to the first referee no less than 20 minutes before the scheduled match starting time. The duties of the timer include testing the timing device prior to the match and timing the prematch warm-ups. He/she should be seated at the official table beside the official scorer.
- Slide 76** During the sets, the timer should time the interval for team time-outs (60 seconds), giving an audio signal at the end of 45 seconds and 60 seconds if the teams have not returned to the court prior to the end of the 60 seconds. The timer must also time injury time-outs (30 seconds), beginning with the referee's signal and giving an audio signal at the end of the 30 seconds, unless the referees have indicated otherwise or play has resumed. The time between sets is three minutes, beginning with the first referee's signal for the teams to report to their benches. An audio signal should be given at 2:45 and again at 3:00 if the teams have not returned to the court. For a deciding set (#5 of best 3/5 and #3 in best 2/3), the timer should wait to start the 3 minutes until the coin toss is completed and the second referee instructs the timer to start the clock.

- Slide 77** The NFHS Volleyball Rules Committee believed it appropriate that a point of emphasis this year should be the responsibilities and privileges of the head coach while he/she is standing to instruct the players on the court. The head coach may stand only in the replacement zone, not behind the bench, and not closer than six feet to the sideline, to coach his/her players during play according to Rule 12-2-6. During the set, the coach should not enter the substitution zone, either during play or during a dead ball. If the coach needs a clarification of a rule or a referee decision, a lineup check, a time-out or substitution, or has a scorekeeping concern, those items should be addressed to the second referee while the coach remains outside the substitution zone and in the replacement zone. The head coach is not at liberty to address the line judge or comment directly/indirectly regarding a call or judgment of the line judge. The second referee must intervene if the coach oversteps his/her boundary in comments to the line judge. The head coach would be allowed in the substitution zone between sets when submitting a new written lineup for the next set, while changing benches and to tend to an injured player during a dead ball. If a team member (coaches, substitutes, managers, trainer, etc.) receives a card (yellow or red) for unsporting conduct, the head coach shall remain seated during the remainder of the match except to stand and request a time-out or substitution, to confer with officials during specifically requested time-outs, or as provided in Rule 12-2-5. On the first action in conflict with the rules, if minor, a verbal warning from the second referee should suffice through preventative officiating, but other violations warrant issuing a card.
- Slide 78** The head coach can stand in the replacement zone and 6 feet away from the sideline but cannot stand in a location that interferes with the R2 and a line judge performing his/her functions. The head coach may be requested to move if blocking officials. If floor space is limited, the head coach may stand but shall remain immediately in front of the team bench. The head coach would be allowed in the substitution zone between sets when submitting a new written lineup for the next set, while changing benches and to tend to an injured player during a dead ball.
- Slide 79** During a team warm-up period all personnel (including players, coaches, managers and auxiliary personnel) actively conducting the warm-up activities should be in proper attire for the duties required including wearing proper footwear and must not be listening to a music device or using a cell phone. 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 80** 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. Referees can warn or penalize players and coaches who do not comply with dress and behavior rules. However, host management must ensure that non-players on the floor actively participating in warm-ups or during match play (line judges) are wearing proper footwear (**no bare feet or flip-flops are allowed—must wear footwear that can be fastened to the foot and can't come off**) and are not listening to a music device or using a cell phone.
- Slide 81** After viewing this presentation, if you have questions or suggestions please email: smcdonald@mhsa.org
- Find the volleyball section of the MHSА Handbook on the MHSА website at www.mhsa.org. then proceed to the volleyball page.
- Please continue to the next screen to verify your completion of this clinic requirement.
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- Thank you and have a great 2010 Volleyball Season.
- Slide 83** Thank you and have a great 2010 Volleyball Season.