

Southern Nevada Officials Association

Volleyball Officials Handbook

Approved: 2009/2010

I. Local Information, Adjustments and Additions to the Rules

Rule 1

1. Match Format

- a. All SNOA matches are rally scoring with no cap, win by 2. Match formats are best 2 of 3 for the B and JV, play to 25 points, except game 3 is to 15, and best 3 out of 5 in Varsity, play to 25 points in games 1 through 4, and to 15 points in game 5. For tournaments, and in some leagues with permission of the state, the format may be altered. We do what the home team requests, when there is disagreement.
- b. SNOA officials do not rule on the eligibility of players to compete in a match. If the coaches can't agree on the legality of a player, play the match, and let the administrators argue later. When Utah or Arizona schools are playing, check before the match with the coaches to see if the coach is using the same players for both JV and varsity. If so, the Nevada coach must agree. With two Nevada schools, participation in more than one match is only permitted in the 1A league, only if the team has fewer than 15 total players and only if both coaches agree. The coach must designate the players who are going to play two matches before the start of the first match. However, even in these cases, it is up to the schools, not the officials, to determine the correct process. Play the match if possible and let them work it out later.

Rule 2

2. Court and Markings

- a. Courts with mascots across the center of the court often do not have a center line drawn through the mascot. Teams are not required to draw or tape the center line. Officials will, however, continue to call line violations as if the line was present. Such calls are considered judgement calls.

Rule 3

3. The Ball

- a. There is an official ball that is required for Regional and State tournaments only. This is the Molten Super Touch, in red, white, and blue colors. This ball should be used during the regular season, even without the NFHS seal. However, teams may continue to use any NFHS approved balls, including other colors of Super Touch, or, in men's season, the Molten Pro Touch. National Federation rules and local interpretation do not require any specific brand and model of ball for use by teams, so long as other balls meet the requirements of the rule with regard to size, weight, markings, Federation seal and color. Officials shall not deny the use of balls provided by the home team that meet the minimum requirements.

Rule 4

4. Player Uniforms

- a. The rule book requires "like colored" uniforms, not identical uniforms.
- b. Uniform rules should be enforced with a strong dose of common sense in the B and JV matches. Many teams use "hand-me-down" uniforms for these teams, and they will often have a few non-matching uniforms. These should not be penalized, unless some preventable problem such as duplicate numbers is discovered after play has begun. Uniforms must have numbers. With the R1's approval, numbers may be put on the uniform with tape.
- c. If an entire team is in illegal uniforms, normal procedure is to apply one point/side-out at the start of the match and report the problem. However, these are often discovered at the beginning of the season and approval from the Commissioner is obtained. Officials will be notified at officials meetings when approval for illegal uniforms has been obtained. Unless you know differently, do not penalize a team unless told to do so at a meeting.

Rule 5

5. Officials' Uniform

- a. SNOA volleyball officials regular season uniforms shall consist of one of the following combinations:
 - i. SNOA polo shirt, black dress slacks, white socks, white shoes,
 - ii. SNOA polo shirt, black dress slacks, black socks, black shoes,
 - iii. SNOA polo shirt, black dress shorts, white socks, white shoes.
- b. Officials may wear unobtrusive jewelry that will not interfere with or limit them in their duties. Watches are encouraged to be worn to provide backup for timing warmup, times-out and time between games/matches. Officials should not have visible pens/pencils or items other than their red, yellow and R2's cards in their uniform pocket.
- c. Optionally, officials may wear:
 - i. a white SNOA or US Volleyball sweater over the SNOA or other white polo shirt or
 - ii. all white unadorned tee shirt beneath the SNOA polo shirt.

6. Line Judges

- a. While the rule book states that the R1 is responsible for briefing the line judges, we prefer that the R2 conduct the briefing so that the R1 is free to observe the team warmups. R1s may still choose to conduct the briefing. At schools using ball shaggers, the R2 should find and brief the shaggers, provided by the home team.
- b. In sub-varsity matches and in some varsity matches, each school is required to provide a person (student or adult) as a line judge. In varsity matches where SNOA line judges are to be used (most 4A varsity matches), the home team is responsible for providing a substitute line judge or judges if fewer than four SNOA officials are available. Schools may not refuse to provide line judges or, where required for their league (4A), ball shaggers. Non-SNOA line judges are not paid. We prefer these line judges to be players or coaches, but, in any case, must be selected by the coach of the home team, not the officials.

7. Scorekeeper/Timer
 - a. The rule book also states that the R2 is responsible for briefing the scorer and timer. We prefer that the R1 and R2 both meet with the scorer and timer, and that the R1 conduct the briefing.

8. Court Protocol
 - a. Rules do not require that teams be penalized for failure to obey end-of-match court protocol. During the regular season, penalties should be administered for failure to follow procedure. Officials, however, should apply common sense in penalizing during tournament championship matches, season end critical matches and similar times when celebrations are going to occur. Best policy is to check with the scorer when the score reaches 14 or 24 to ensure the book is correct and then to permit celebration without forcing end-of-match procedures to be followed. The R1 should brief the teams during the pre-match conference concerning his/her expectations for the end-of-match.

9. Signals
 - a. By rule, a player crossing the center line under the net should be signaled as Signal #2, Line Violation. The SNOA uses its own signal for this call, made with the hand and arm held across the mid-torso, hand open and palm up, pointing away from the team that committed the violation.

II

Pre-Match Procedure

<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Comments</u>
30	Officials on site	
20	Scorekeeper on site	Conference. Notify scorekeeper of outcome.

Visitor team court

Set Clock to 8:00	Hit the horn
At 2:00 on clock	Rosters due. Penalty for changes, Check for accuracy.

Home team court

Set Clock to 8:00	Hit the horn, Start clock when (a) first player hits the ball or (b) officials give ok.
At 2:00 on clock	Lineups Due. If in, cannot be changed after clock reaches 2:00

- When unusual circumstances (like a late bus) occur, the schedule should be altered by the R1, in conjunction with the coaches.

III. Evaluation of Officials

1. Each Official will be ranked into one of five rating groups by the Volleyball Board.
 - a. The groups are: 4A/3A Varsity R1, 2A/1A Varsity R1, JV R1, B R1, and R2 Only.
 - b. Officials in each group may R2 two groups higher.
 - c. The Assignor may assign a person to a higher level match when no other officials are available.

2. At each site, the Varsity R1 shall be required to complete an evaluation of each partner they were able to observe.

3. The rankings of the officials shall be based on the evaluations of the Varsity R1's, evaluations performed by Board members not assigned to work that match, input from the Assignor, and evaluations received from coaches.
4. Each official shall be notified at least once a year of their ranking, and provided whenever possible with the evaluations of R1s, Board members, and coaches. The Board members are responsible for ensuring that every official is observed a sufficient number of times to receive a fair evaluation.

IV. Assigning Policy

1. It is the policy of SNOA Volleyball that:
 - a. Assignments of in-season matches be spread out among the available officials to the extent reasonably possible.
 - b. The number of assignments received will be negatively impacted when officials are frequently late, assignments are missed, or the official is not maintaining the high level of professionalism expected.
 - c. When a 4A school has no B team, the normal assignment practice is for the two JV officials to be the varsity line judges, and the Varsity R1 and R2 to be scheduled for only one match. The assignor has the discretion to vary from this practice if necessary.
 - d. Normal assigning practice for the 4A schools with two gyms will be to split the two most experienced officials, one to each gym, for the B and JV. The assignor has the discretion to vary from this practice if necessary.
 - e. Tournament assignments should equally be spread out among the available officials. Varsity tournaments are generally assigned to varsity officials. B and JV tournaments are normally assigned to JV and B officials first. Often schools request varsity level officials for the finals of B and JV tournaments.
2. Playoff assignment policies are:
 - a. To be playoff eligible, an official must attend at least 5 training meetings, and must score at least a 70 on the NFHS Exam if given in class, and 85 if given as a take home.
 - b. Rankings still apply during the playoffs. R1 slots in the playoffs at all levels are generally filled with 4A/3A ranked varsity officials, with R2 assignments generally including some 2A/1A officials. Line judge assignments may come from any level.
 - c. Regional assignments will be spread out among the qualified officials where possible.
 - d. There are, in every two year cycle, 5 R1, 5 R2, and 12 line judge spots available in state finals. The intent of SNOA volleyball is to have 22 different people in those spots, with actual assignments dependent on maintaining the level of experience and quality.
3. Officials are expected to complete the assignments they accept. It is the responsibility of the official to notify the assignor of changes in their schedule that alters their ability to complete their assignments. Officials may not swap assignments with other officials, nor may they switch position (R1, R2, linesperson) without the permission of the assignor.
4. SNOA policy permits the fining of officials who are out of uniform, late, miss assignments, turn back assignments after accepting them or switch assignments with other officials. Volleyball has adopted the SNOA fine schedule without alteration.
5. Officials who work early matches when later matches will be played in the same gym must remain on site until their replacements arrive. If only one official is present at the match site that official should proceed through the pre-game procedure on schedule and conduct the match by themselves if necessary. If an official from an earlier match is available, that official must step in and work the match. Once the match begins, the officials who start it will

finish it, even if the scheduled official(s) arrive. If the R1 arrives past the game start and the R2 has begun the match as the solo R1, the late arriving official will become the R2. Officials shall not change positions after the match has begun. Notify the assignor of any unusual circumstance that occurs.

6. If a match ends early and the officials for the following match have not arrived, it is not permissible for the officials on site to begin preparations for the match to follow, nor start that match, before its scheduled time. These officials should remain on site and act only if the warmup time has begun for the next match and no new officials have reached the match site.
7. Officials traveling to remote sites are expected to travel together, except to Boulder City. The two officials must communicate well before the date of the match and determine who will drive, where they will meet and when. Travel should be scheduled to allow arrival at least 45 minutes prior to match time without having to drive in an unsafe manner. Officials should trade off driving responsibility over the course of the season. Normally officials travel in street clothes and change into their uniforms upon arrival.
8. The driver is responsible for providing drinks and snacks on all trips. On longer trips, the driver should buy meals as well. Officials should not offer to drive if the vehicle is not in good running condition, or would be uncomfortable. For example, if five officials are traveling to a tournament, three of them should not be asked to sit in the rear of a subcompact car.
9. It is never acceptable for officials to change clothes in the gymnasium, either before or after a match.
10. Officials must be cautious in their conversation. While in the stands, each official is still representing SNOA and must limit their conversation with fans and with other officials. It is never permissible to publicly discuss another official, even with other officials, when fans, coaches or players are present. It is perfectly acceptable to answer questions about the rules, however, good judgement is required in way the answer is given. Officials are discouraged from commenting to the media about any match, whether they worked it or not.
11. Officials should refer to team coaches as “coach” while on assignment.
12. Officials must notify the assignor of potential conflicts of interest they may have with a coach or school. These include employment at a school, children enrolled at a school, personal relationships with coaches and business relationships such as coaching club teams or teaching clinics with coaches.

Directions to Non-Clark County Schools:

Out of the County (more or less):

Alamo: North on I-15 about 20 miles to the U.S. 93 turnoff (Ely, Pioche, Great Basin National Park exit) Travel north about 70 miles. Pass through the Pahrangat National Wildlife Refuge. In town, the first left turn is to the school. Signs say both high school and airport. The school is on the left a couple blocks down.

Amaragosa MS: 95 North to Lathrop Wells (75.5 miles). Turn Left on Hwy 373 to Amargosa Farm Road (5 miles- Fort Gas Station). Turn right (pass Junk yard/Police/Library) to school (2.5 miles). Community gym on right side across from the park.

Beatty High School: North on U.S. 95 about 100 miles (signs say to Reno). The school is the first building on the left as you enter town. It is set back a couple hundred yards off the highway.

Beatty MS: 95 north to Beatty (100 miles). At the stop sign take a left. Two blocks take a right. 2 blocks on your left.

Indian Springs: North on U.S. 95 about 40 miles (signs say to Reno). The school is on the second exit road to the left as you enter town. It is set back a couple hundred yards off the highway, and has an old jet plane out front.

Lincoln County: North on I-15 about 20 miles to the U.S. 93 turnoff (Ely, Pioche, Great Basin National Park exit) Travel north about 150 miles. You will pass through Alamo and Caliente. Panaca appears as a grove of trees on the right side about 15 miles outside of Caliente. There is a gas station and a bar at the turnoff. Go into town, make a left on Second Street and a right two blocks in. The football field lights are visible to guide you.

Needles: South on US 95 toward Boulder City. Just after Railroad Pass, take the US 93 exit right toward Laughlin. Stay on this road about 80 miles. Go straight at the Laughlin turnoff and you will immediately enter California. This road winds around until you reach Interstate 40. Go east on I-40 about ten miles. Take the J street exit (the school is visible on the right from I-40 nearing the exit). Right on J street. Make a right turn just before the church at the top of the hill. The road ends at the high school. Make a right turn to reach the gymnasium entrance and parking.

Pahrump: Take State Highway 160 to Pahrump, about 65 miles. This is exit 33 off of I-15, at the Silverton Hotel. Decatur, Rainbow, and Charleston also intersect this highway (turn right when you get to it). Upon reaching town, make a left at the Calvada development (the intersection has a few trees on a parkway like setting and is the first major intersection in town. It precedes all the hotels and is opposite a minimarket/gas station). This road winds around about a mile. You will pass the old middle school first, then reach the high school.

Rosemary Clarke MS (Pahrump): South on I-15 to Blue Diamond and west on Hwy 160. Go North through town. Turn left on Bell Vista. Go down to Blagg Rd and turn right. If you go about another mile on Blagg the school will be on the right. Take the last driveway and follow it to the back of the campus where the gym is located.

Sandy Valley: I-15 south to Jean. Turn right on Hwy 161 towards Goodsprings for 6 miles. Turn left on Sandy Valley Road. Curvy mountain road. Upon entering town (10 miles) turn right on Cherokee, left on Quartz and right on Hopi. Corner of Pearl and Hopi

Tonopah: North on U.S. 95 about 210 miles (signs say to Reno). You pass through Beatty and Goldfield. School is almost the first building on the right as you enter town, behind the McDonalds.

Directions to schools can best be found using Arbiter, with the warning that sometimes Arbiter will try to send you to the wrong state or down a road that does not actually go through. Always leave a little early when headed to a school you have not been to before. Click on the site name, and it will give you a map to the school. You can get driving directions by entering your address as well.