



## **AUSTRALIAN VOLLEYBALL REFEREE COMMISSION**

### **Information update**

### **Rule modifications 2009 – 2012**

The following information has been compiled utilising the Federation Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB) documents:

1. Rules of the Game 2009-2012
2. Refereeing Guidelines and instructions (Edition 2009)
3. Case Book, revision 1.5 (Edition 2009)

The rules as outlined below will apply to all National Volleyball events in Australia effective immediately.

Note: Not all changes to the rules are highlighted within this document; there have been modifications to clarify the wording and alterations to the numbering of rules. The full rules text is available on the FIVB website [www.fivb.org](http://www.fivb.org). Referees are encouraged to download a copy of the rules whilst the changes are easily identifiable. Rules specifically applying to FIVB senior world competitions may not be applied here.

Any questions regarding the information provided in this document should be addressed to:

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## Changes applying to playing actions

- 1)** A rule applying to the centre line and penetration by players under the net (Rule 11.2.2.2) has been added:

11.2.2.2 To touch the opponent's court with any part of the body above the feet is permitted provided that it does not interfere with the opponent's play.

A player can now pass the centre line as long as their feet do not completely pass beyond the centre line. The second referee must carefully judge whether any interference has occurred, either by physical hindrance or through creating a dangerously playing surface, such as a wet spot on the floor.

11.4.2 A player interferes with an opponent's play while penetrating into the opponent's space under the net

11.4.3 A player's foot (feet) penetrates completely into the opponent's court.

- 2)** There have been several changes to the contact with the net rules (Rules 11.3 and 11.4). In general, unless contact with the net occurs at the top band (7cm), it is not a fault.

This video presentation

[http://www.hunvolley.hu/mrsz/jatekvezetok/szab\\_terem/net\\_rule\\_modifications.wmv](http://www.hunvolley.hu/mrsz/jatekvezetok/szab_terem/net_rule_modifications.wmv) developed by a member of the FIVB Rules Commission provides an excellent representation of what is now legal. It also provides a comparison with the old rules.

11.3.1 Contact with the net IS NOT A FAULT, unless it interferes with play.

11.3.2 Players may touch the post, ropes or any other object outside the antennae, including the net itself, provided that it does not interfere with play.

### **What is interference?**

- 11.4.4 A player interferes with an opponent's play by (amongst others):
- touching the top band of the net, or the top 80cm of the antenna during his/her action of playing the ball
  - taking support from the net simultaneously with playing the ball



- creating an advantage over an opponent
- making actions which hinder an opponent's legitimate attempt to play the ball.

Note: It is not considered interference if a player, in contacting the net, causes the net to move significantly or obviously.

## **Changes applying to process and rights**

### **3) Change to Captain's rights**

If a team has a coach present at the court, then the team captain no longer has the right to call for game interruptions (e.g. Time Out)

Rule 5.1.2.3 In the absence of the coach, (the captain) to request time-out or substitution.

### **4) Two Libero players**

Teams of up to twelve (12) players may now nominate two Libero players. Both Libero players will be identified within the team list on the scoresheet in the lines allocated for Liberors (Rule 19.1.1 and 19.1.2).

Please note: Teams will continue to be limited to twelve (12) players maximum in Australian competitions.

The Libero in play ("Acting Libero") can be exchanged with the reserve Libero, but note the acting Libero will then take no further part in that match. Scorers will record the redesignation of Libero within the remarks section of the scoresheet.

To make it easier for spectators and the officials to acknowledge the redesignation of Liberors, the redesignation should occur in the Libero replacement zone using a process similar to the substitution process.

A team captain may now also relinquish the captaincy to take on the Libero role. Note a replacement Game Captain must be nominated who will take on the Team Captain responsibilities for the remainder of the match.



#### 5) **Substitution procedure**

The coach is no longer required to press a buzzer or make an official hand signal to request a substitution. The request for substitution will be the act of a player, in uniform and ready to enter the court, entering the substitution zone with the substitution paddle in hand whilst the ball is out of play.

The scorer, using a buzzer; or the second referee, using a whistle will authorise the request for substitution (Rule 15.10).

#### 6) **Second referee responsibilities**

The rules have returned to the 2000-2004 requirements for the second referee to whistle the illegal back row attack fault.

The second referee will now take up a position between the scorer and the net post during the substitution process. They must ensure their position does not interfere with the scorer's view of the players substituting. The second referee will continue to be responsible for controlling the substitution process, including multiple substitutions being conducted one by one. They will also continue to provide authorisation for the players to enter the court, once the scorer has endorsed the legality of the substitution.