

"Control the Controllable"

It is hard to believe that we are headed into the final three weeks of the regular season. There is amazing volleyball being played across the state, and the growth of the players is a true testament to the outstanding coaching that our student/athletes receive! As the "Pink Night" festivities continue to take place be sure to double-check uniform numbers/rosters. It is a common mistake for these to be incorrect with the different uniforms that are being worn. Please continue to turn in your Good Sportsmanship forms to the WHSAA office.

Thanks again for ALL that you do--"It Takes a Village"

Kathy Hamer-Smith

Questions

****There has been great discussion about why an official can't find information found in the Officials Manual in the Rule Book?** In the Volleygrams I try to indicate where you can find information. Sometimes answers will reference: Officials Manual; Rule Book; or it may have both of these listed together as they are found in both places. The NFHS provides both the Officials Manual and the Rule Book to be used together. The Officials Manual is designed to provide consistency through rule interpretations, mechanics, techniques, and protocols. Therefore there may be things that we do/enforce that you will find in the Officials Manual but not in the Rule Book . An example would be: When does the R2 blow the warning whistle during the pre-match warmup? Answer is at (15 seconds remaining in their team warmup) which is found in the Officials Manual on page 34. It is not found in the Rule Book as this is considered a mechanic/protocol and not a rule. I encourage you to carry both of these with you, as I know that sometimes a coach will want you to show them where something is in the Rule Book.

1, Does the WHSAA allow the officials to wear pink whistles and pink lanyards throughout the month of October, or is this only allowed on the designated "Pink Night"?

Answer: Yes, you can wear them throughout the month

2. Is it legal for the libero to attack the ball inside the attack zone? Answer: Yes, as long as the ball is not above the height of the net when contacted (Rule Book page 39, article 6 a).

3. Does the R2 mirror the net serve signal? Answer: No (Officials Manual page 16 #6 Note).

Mechanics

1. Does Wyoming use the specific officials protocol for introductions and the National Anthem? Answer: No, you can follow it if you and your partner would like, but you are not required to use the protocols listed in the (Officials Manual on page 34).

2. Pre-match check list:

(a) Check the height of the net. What do I do if I can't safely get the net to a legal height? Answer: Play the match, and if needed contact the WHSA). Safety is always the #1 factor, and with many of our systems if you crank the nets too much (causing the poles to severely bend in) this can cause the cable/ropes to snap. Try to get the net the closest you can to legal height. It is also a good proactive protocol to let both coaches know if there is a net issue. *Be sure that the rollers on top of the posts and the cables/ropes on these are straight. This is a safety issue as these can slip out and snap.

(b) Check the net antennas/sleeves. We are still seeing these put on backwards! The antenna needs to be on the outside of the line.

(c) Check to see if there is any visible metal/hard material(s) on the bottom or top of the net cables. If there is then they need to be covered.

(d) Check the officials stand for correct padding and connection to the standard etc.

(e) Check the ball pressure (it seems like we are seeing low pressure, especially in the new balls).

(f) Declare and explain to the teams your playable area(s) during the pre-match conference. Also, be sure to work with your cheerleaders!

Points to Ponder

1. The RF on Team S attacks the ball to the floor for a point after which the RF (a) steps completely over the center line; (b) touches the net; Ruling: (a) and (b) are legal. Comment: The ball must be in play for a net fault or line fault to occur. (Case Book page 36, 9.5.2).