

RULES OF THE GAME VOLLEYBALL CASEBOOK

2017 Edition

Compiled and Prepared by the FIVB Rules of the Game and Refereeing Commission

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PREFACE

Volleyball is a great game – just ask the millions of people who play it, watch it, analyze it and referee it. It has been actively promoted in recent years and has developed tremendously as a top competitive sport. Increased excitement, speed, explosive action, a clean healthy image and huge TV audience figures have created an impetus to develop the game even further, to make it simpler and more attractive to an even wider range of viewing public.

However, to make a correct and uniform application of these rules on a world stage is also very important for the further development of the game. This Casebook is a collection of plays with Official Rulings approved by the Refereeing and Rules of the Game Commission and based upon the most up-to-date edition of the Rules. These rulings expand on and clarify the spirit and meaning of the Official Rules, and are the official interpretations to be followed during all competitions.

This Casebook is based upon the 2017-2020 edition of the Rule Text whose mandate was approved by the FIVB Congress at Buenos Aires (ARG), in October 2016.

There is a whole new invention informing the referees and people interested in volleyball about the rules and refereeing. Several cases appearing in this Casebook have been illustrated with video shots, helping the understanding of the situations and making the cases more interesting and attractive. These cases are indicated at the description. They are collected into a special document, the Illustrated Casebook, which is available soon on the FIVB e-learning platform.

Guillermo Paredes President, FIVB Refereeing and Rules of the Game Commission



MODIFICATIONS BETWEEN 2016 and 2017 VERSION WITH THE REFERENCE TO THE ACTUAL NUMBERING

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PART I - THEORETICAL PRINCIPLES OF APPLICATION

The referee is the one who puts the rules into practice. For the correct application of the rules, the referees have to know the rules faultlessly and apply them decisively and correctly within the context of the game. Rule 23.2.3 states, "The referee has the power to decide any matter involving the game, including those not provided for in the rules". Only on the basis of full acquisition of the fundamental principles of formulation and application of the rules can this be done.

Remember the referee stays in the background but at the same time acts to promote the game in the best light, and in this way the game is attractive to a wider audience.

We want the game to be popular – making an attractive show is the way to do that.

THE RULES FOR THE CASEBOOK 2017 EDITION

The 2017 Casebook is a reflection of the rules, which were put into effect by the 2016 FIVB Congress. While other rules and philosophical changes are always likely to be considered, as a sport and its society changes, it is worth remembering that the rulings shown here are those relating to the rules in force *today*.

A special chapter included, since the FIVB is using electronic devices for top competition. (tablet)

In the appendix the case numbers are listed together with the corresponding rules.

The case numbers are linked with the cases.



PART II - CASES

CHAPTER 1 – PARTICIPANTS

WEARING FORBIDDEN OBJECTS

<u>1.1</u> A prosthetic leg, a leg support, a plaster cast for a damaged wrist. Is such a device allowed?	Ruling Some yes – provided that the device will not cause undue risk to the player or the other players in the game, or in the case of the forearm support will not provide additional control of the ball. However the rules allow a player to wear compression devices for injury protection, as prescribed by Rule 4.5.3. Rules 4.5.1, 4.5.3
<u>1.2</u> Is a player allowed to play wearing a ring which is likely to cause injury?	Ruling Due to the risk of injury, a player must remove the ring, or have it taped.

Rule 4.5.1

CAPTAIN

<u>1.3</u> What is the proper response by the 1 st referee if a game captain constantly questions 1 st referee decisions?	Ruling Beyond the limits of Rule 5.1.2, he should warn the game captain with no penalty, as stated in Rule 21.1. If the behaviour continues, the game captain should be sanctioned for rude conduct with a red card (point and service to the opponents). Rules 5.1.2, 20.1, 20.2, 21.2, 21.3.1, Diagram 9
<u>1.4</u> VIDEO The game captain asked the 1 st referee for a line-up check. Is this allowed?	Ruling Yes. However, the right to make this request may not be abused by a team, and only detailed information about his/her own team may be provided. For the opponent team the only information that will be provided will be whether or not the players are correctly positioned. No information will be given about which players are front or back row players. Rule 5.1.2.2
<u>1.5</u> (1.6/2016) How does the game captain legally and politely request the 1 st referee to ask a line judge if he signalled a fault?	Ruling At the end of the rally, the game captain may raise one hand to request an explanation for the interpretation of the judgment. The 1 st referee must honour the request. Rules 5.1.2.1, 20.2.1
<u>1.6</u> (1.7/2016) Is the referee's decision final? May he/she change his/her own decision if the team protests?	Ruling Yes. The referee may change his/her own decision if he/she became aware of his/her mistake before the next service.



On the other hand, the teams are not allowed to	
protest against normal referee decisions. Rules 5.1.2.1, 23.2.4	

COACH

<u>1.7</u> (1.8/2016) VIDEO	Ruling
Are communication devices allowed for the coaches during the game?	The use of such devices is allowed.
<u>1.8</u> (1.9/2016) VIDEO	Ruling
Are coaches permitted to talk to the 2 nd referee	Only the game captain is authorized to speak to the
during the match about decisions or protests?	referees to request explanations. The coach is not
	authorized to do so.
	Rules5.1.2, 5.2.3.4, 21.1, 21.2, 21.3
<u>1.9</u> (1.10/2016)	Ruling
May the assistant coach or player press the buzzer for	Yes - but the coach must still give the official hand
т/о?	signal, even if tablets are in use to make such
	requests.
	Rules 5.2.1, 5.2.3.3, 5.3.1
<u>1.10</u> (1.12/2016) VIDEO	Ruling
Where may the coach move during the match?	The coach, and only the coach, has the right to walk
	in the free zone during the match behind the coach's
	restriction line between the extension of the attack
	line and the warm-up area It is required, that the
	coach remains behind this line throughout the
	entire match, i.e. during the rallies and

	to be behind those limits, he/she may be warned. Rule 5.2.3.4
1.11 (1.13/2016)	Ruling
If injured or disabled, can the coach be allowed to	5
use crutches in the free zone to perform his/her	the coach.
duties during the match?	

If the coach consistently ignores the referees' request

THE UNIFORM

1.12 (new) VIDEO	Ruling
During the Men's World Cup a team had 2 players,	For normal matches the rules allow to number the
who wore jerseys with number 21 and 22	players up to 20.
respectively. Is it allowed?	However in FIVB, World and Official Competitions for
	Seniors, which includes the World Cup, it is
	permitted to wear numbers greater, than 20. The
	actual competition regulation should determine the
	upper limit of players' numbers.
	Rule 4.3.3.



CHAPTER 2 – PLAYING FORMAT

POSITIONAL AND ROTATIONAL FAULTS

2.1 (2.2/2016) The team's setter from position 1 was standing clearly in front of player position 2, but jumped at the moment before the service hit. Is this a legal position?	Ruling Fault. When players jump from the floor, they retain the position that they had from their last contact with the floor. Therefore, while the back row player was in the air, the point of his last contact with the floor was retained. Rules 7.4, 7.4.2, 7.4.3
2.2 (2.3/2016) The centre back player had a hand on the floor clearly in front of the feet of his front row player at the time the ball was contacted for service. He/she had both feet behind the front foot of the centre front player. Is this a legal position for the receiving team?	Ruling Legal position. Only the feet which are in contact with the floor are considered when determining whether players make a positional fault. (except for the situation in case 2.2)
	Rules 7.4.3, 7.5
2.3 (2.4/2016) VIDEO If the foot of a player on court is in contact with the opponent court or the free zone at service hit, is this a fault?	Ruling Yes -fault because at the moment of the service hit all players must be within their own court except the server. There is a difference between playing court (18x9) and the court (9x9). Players must be within their own <u>court</u> at the service hit and that includes touching, or being completely on their own side, of the centre line. Consequently it is fault for a player on court to be in contact with the free zone or the opponent court in the moment of service. Rules 1.3.3, 7.4
2.4 (2.6/2016) A team was given incorrect information about which player was to serve. Play continued. This incorrect information was noticed at a later point in the set. What happens now?	Ruling The teams must revert to as close to their original line-up as possible. The score reverts to the point where the wrong information was given. T/O and TTO and sanctions remain valid. These events must be recorded on the score sheet.
2.5 (2.7/2016) VIDEO The teams were not ready to play because five (5) or seven (7) players were on court when the 1 st referee was ready to whistle for service. What should have occurred?	Ruling The 1 st referee should whistle for service when he/she is sure that the teams are ready to play and that the server is in possession of the ball. There must always be 6 players per team in play. Because the 1 st referee noticed the mistake <i>before</i> he/she whistle for service, he/she must award a delay sanction to the team at fault. The next team to serve depends on the <u>type of delay sanction</u> . But if the 1 st referee still whistled for service when only 5 or 7 players were on court, he/she must stop the rally immediately and replay without any sanction. If the situation is discovered after the end of the next



rally, the result of this rally should be cancelled and replayed without any sanction. If nobody discovered the situation, or did so after the start of the next rally, the rally played with 5 (or 7) players of a team cannot be replayed.
Rules 7.3.1., 7.5, 12.3, 12.4.3

, , ,	Ruling Only a single point should be awarded, due to the rotational fault, regardless of which team "won" the rally.
	Rule 7.7.1.1



CHAPTER 3 – PLAYING ACTIONS

PLAYING THE BALL

<u>3.1</u> The 1 st hit flew outside of the antenna. The setter pursued the ball into the opponent's free zone and tried to play it back – but the ball went towards the court and net on the opponent's side. The 1 st referee whistled and signalled "ball out". At what moment does the ball become "out"?	Ruling This ball had become "out" when it had left completely the space above the free zone and entered the space above the court on the opponent's side of the net. Rules 10.1.2, 10.1.2.2
3.2 Can a player legally hit the ball with the palm of one hand up?	Ruling Yes, he can. The hit must be judged by the quality of the ball contact – i.e. is it a soft or hard rebound or whether or not the ball was caught and/or thrown. The 1 st referee must not be too hasty in whistling this play unless he can clearly see that the ball is caught and/or thrown. Rules 9.2.1, 9.2.2, 9.3.3, 9.3.4
3.3 During a first hit the ball rebounded from one arm to the other and then onto the chest of a player during one action and without being caught or thrown. The 1 st referee allowed the game to continue. Is this correct?	 Ruling The decision of the 1st referee was correct. "First hit" cases, in which successive contacts are allowed, are: Reception of the service. Reception of an attack hit. This can be either a soft or a hard attack. Reception of a ball blocked by one's own team. Reception of a ball blocked by the opponent. Reception of a ball blocked by the opponent. A player has the right to make successive contacts at the first hit, so long as he/she makes only one action to play the ball. It is possible, however, to whistle a "catch" or "throw" on the first hit if two different phases (first catch, then throw) are recognised within the action.
3.4 (3.5/2016) A blocker "redirected" the ball to the floor of the opponents. Is this legal?	Ruling This depends on whether the ball is caught or thrown (fault) rather than rebounding (no fault). It is legal to block the ball and <i>direct</i> it back to the opponent's court, but the illegal contact of "catch" can be whistled during blocking. Rule 9.2.2



3.5 (3.6/2016) A player jumped into the air trying to retrieve the ball near the spectator seats on his own side of the net. After contacting the ball, he landed in the seats. Is this a legal action?	Ruling Legal play. Outside his/her own side of the free zone, a player is allowed to play a ball and even take support to hit the ball. This would include his/her own team bench since this is outside the free zone. The same action is forbidden on the opponent's side of the net. Rules 9, 9.1.3, 10.1.2
3.6 (3.7/2016) During a rally, a player chased the ball into the spectator stands. Just as she was about to hit the ball, a spectator reached up to catch the ball. The coach requested a replay because of the spectator's interference. The referee refused. Was this a correct decision of the 1 st referee?	Ruling Yes. The player is allowed to retrieve the ball from anywhere outside her own side of the playing area, including the team bench/ spectator seats, etc. On the other hand, while the player has priority for the ball within the playing area, she has no such priority outside of the playing area. Rules9, 9.1.3
<u>3.7</u> (3.8/2016) Must the 1 st referee whistle for a handling fault if the player is making a spectacular recovery?	Ruling The referee should consider the principle of "keep the ball flying". It means, if a player makes a quick movement and a big effort to recover the ball, and during the hit a slight double contact has occurred, he/she must be less severe, than in a normal situation Refereeing Guidelines and Instructions Rule 9.point 7.
<u>3.8</u> (3.9/2016) A ball went off the blocker A's head, <u>over the antenna</u> <u>into the free zone of 'B'</u> . A player of 'A' pursued the ball to play it back to his side of the net. Is it possible to play it back like this?	Ruling Yes. The ball passed over the antenna into the opponent's free zone partially through the external space. Therefore it was legal for team 'A' to return the ball to its own court through the external space on the same side of the court. Line judges should not signal while the ball moves in this way until the moment it is finally out of play. Rule 10.1.2
3.9 (3.10.1/2016) Should the line judge signal when after the second <u>hit</u> of a team the ball crosses the net plane through the external space into the opponent's free zone?	Ruling No, to judge this ball is not the duty of the line judge. Rules 8.4.1, 8.4.2, 9.1, 10.1.2, 10.1.2.1, 10.1.2.2

<u>3.10</u> (3.10.2/2016)	Ruling
Team A's setter hit the ball above the net so that at	Each team must play the ball within its own playing
the moment of the hit his/her fingers were in the	area and space (except in the case of Rule 10.1.2).
opponent's space. After the set the ball flew parallel	Above the top of the net, the position of the hand
to the net toward an attacker.	should be considered.
The blocker of team B touched the ball in team A's	Therefore, since the setter has hit the ball in the
space, so that the team A player could not execute	opponent's space, the setter committed a fault.
the attack hit.	The blocker also committed a fault by touching the



How should the 1 st referee decide?	ball in the opponent's space before the attack hit, because above the top of the net, the position of the hand should be considered However, only the first fault is penalized. To hit the ball in the opponent's space under the net is different. Here the position of the ball should be counted, i.e. the play is illegal only if the ball has completely crossed the vertical plane of the net. Rule 9
2 11 (2 10 2/2016)	1
3.11 (3.10.3/2016) May the coach standing in a legal position in his/her	Ruling No.
free zone catch the ball flying over the antenna, when an opponent player is running to replay it?	Any team member, including the coach, has no right to prevent an opponent player from replaying the ball crossing the net plane outside the crossing
	space. It does not matter if the action of the team member

It does not matter if the action of the team member to hit the ball was intentional or unintentional. It means, that the coach standing legally in his/her free zone must "give way" if an opponent player is running to replay and return the ball.

Rule 10.1.2.2.

PENETRATION UNDER THE NET

<u>3.12 (</u> 3.11/2016)	Ruling
A spiker landed with his heels on the centre line, but	Yes. This is interference.
with most of his feet on the feet of the opponent's	Interference means a player stops an opponent from
blocker preventing his ability to move.	moving, or playing the ball, or disturbing the
Is this interference?	opponent while attempting to play the ball.
	Rules 11.2.1, 11.2.2.1, 11.2.4

<u>3.13</u> (3.12.1/2016)	Ruling
Is physical contact always interference?	No, many contacts actually occur in a match - but the 2 nd referee should whistle a player if he/she interfered with or stopped the opponent's ability to play. Rule 11.2.1

<u>3.14 (</u> new) VIDEO	
During a spectacular dig a player penetrates into opponent's court so, that his body hits the floor, but both legs are completely in the air over the opponent court no part above the center line. There was no interference with the opponent players. Was it a faulty action?	Yes. Although the feet did not touch the opponent's court and there was no interference, but no part of the foot/feet was on or over the centre line, therefore the situation should be considered as a fault. On the other hand, if any part of the foot/feet remained over or on the center line, it would be legal action.
	Rule 11.2.2



3.15 After a simultaneous contact above the plane of the net, the ball landed outside the court of team A. Who gets next service?	Ruling If the contact is truly simultaneous by opponents exactly above the net, where both players have the right to play the ball and it lands outside a court, it is the fault of the team on the opposite side. Team A gets service. Rules 9.1.2.2, 9.1.2.3
3.16 An attack hit drove the net into the blocker's forearms. Is this a net fault?	Ruling No. If the net hits the blocker, there is no fault. Rules 11.3.1, 11.4.4
3.17 After a blocker landed securely, he turned and hit the mesh of the net between the antennae with his shoulder. Should this have been called a fault?	Ruling No. Because the action of playing the ball was complete before he turned, the contact with the net is not a fault. Rules 11.3.1, 11.4.4
3.18 The attacker from Team A hit the ball from position 4, as an opponent player(having been confused by a fake attack) hit the net in Team's A position 2. Is this a net fault?	Ruling No, contact with the net between the antennae during the action of playing the ball is the fault – since the opponent was not close to the action of playing the ball, he/she did <u>not</u> commit a fault. Rule 11.3.1, 11.4.4
3.19 While attempting to block, but without touching the ball, which was close to him, the blocker touched the net. Is this a fault?	Ruling Yes – since this is "in the action" of playing or attempting to play the ball, even though no contact was made. Rules 11.3.1, 11.4.4
3.20 A middle blocker reached over the net and touched its top band while attempting to stop a combination play close to him. Is this a fault?	Ruling Yes – the touch of the net was indeed a "net fault": the blocker was close to the action, and the contact was between the antennae. Rules 11.3.1, 11.4.4
3.21 (3.21.1/2016) VIDEO An attacker landed securely on the floor then took two steps and brushed against the net outside of the antenna while the ball was still in play. Is this a fault?	 Ruling No the player did not commit a fault because: First: the contact was outside the antenna the contact was outside the action of playing the ball and was ready for a new action he/she did not use the net as support or stabilizing aid Rules 11.3.1, 11.3.2, 11.4.4
3.22 (3.21.2/2016)	Ruling

<u>3.22</u> (3.21.2/2016)	Ruling
An attacker landed on the floor off balance, took two	Yes, if a player is using the net as a support or
steps and pushed with his chest against the net	stabilizing aid, between the antennae, his/her action



between the antennae while the ball was still in play.	is considered as interference with the play.
If the player had not caught the net, he/she would	
have fallen onto the opponent's court.	Rules 11.3.1, 11.4.4
Is this a fault?	

<u>3.23</u> (3.22.1/2016)	Ruling
A setter made a short set and when the attacker hit the ball, he/she also hit the setter with his/her knee.	
This hit caused the setter to brush against the net. Is this a fault?	Rules 11.3.1, 11.4.4

3.24. (new)VIDEO	Ruling
A player hit the net with a foot while playing the ball.	No. This action is not legal.
Was this action legal?	The player touching the net was in the action of playing the ball, when she hit the net. The rule does not make any difference if the net is hit by arm, hand or foot.
	Rules 11.3.1, 11.4.4

<u>3.25.</u> (new) VIDEO	Ruling
A player hit the net with her hair while the playing the ball. Was her action legal?	Yes. This must only be considered a fault if it is clear, that the net touch affected the opponent's ability to play the ball or it interrupted the rally (e.g. a pony-tail gets tangled in the net). If there was no interference either on the opponent's play, or on the rally, the referees must not stop the game.
	Rules 11.3.1, 11.4.4

	Ruling
hand which had reached over the net plane and drove it to touch the top band of the net. Was there any fault during this action?	If the 1 st referee realises, that the attacker drove the opponent's hand into the net with a deliberate movement, the attacker made a fault by interfering with the opponent's play, which is not according to the spirit of FAIR PLAY. Therefore the attacker's action should be penalised, considered as rude conduct, with the application of the appropriate misconduct sanction. However, if there is no obvious deliberate action by the attacker, the blocker's net touch cannot be considered as a faulty one, because his action was modified by the attacker. Rules 11.3.1, 20.2.1

SERVICE

<u>3.27</u> (3.23/2016)	Ruling
As soon as a player had hit the ball for service, the	Correct action by the scorer. When a wrong server is
scorer signalled "wrong server" or rotational fault to	ready to serve the ball, the scorer must wait until the
the 2 nd referee, who stopped the game. Is this the	service action has been completed before notifying
correct action by the scorer?	the referees of the fault.
	Rules 7.7.1, 12.2.1, 12.7.1, 25.2.2.2



2.29(2.24/2010)	Duling
3.28 (3.24/2016)	Ruling
After the whistle for service, the serving team	Yes – provided the service is made by the correct
recognized it was the wrong server. The correct	player within 8 seconds from the whistle for service.
server then entered the service zone ready to serve.	The 1 st referee does not whistle a second time.
Can this player now serve?	Rule 12.4.4
<u>3.29</u> (3.25/2016)	Ruling
The server threw the ball up into the air, but then let	The action of the server was not legal. The ball must
it drop to the floor. He/she then caught the ball from	be hit with one hand or any part of the arm after
the bounce and immediately served before the end	being tossed or released from the hand(s). Any action
of the 8 seconds allowed for service.	considered by the 1 st referee to be a "toss for service"
Was this a legal action for the server?	must end with the ball being hit for the service.
was this a legal action for the server!	Rule 12.4.2
	Rule 12.4.2
<u>3.30</u> (3.26/2016)	Ruling
The served ball touched the net and the antenna on	The decision of the 1^{st} referee is correct.
the 1 st referee's side before being played by the	A ball touching the antenna is "out".
receiving team. The 1 st referee whistled for a service	By the actual rules if this case occurs on the 2^{nd}
fault.	referee's side, the 2^{nd} referee is bound to whistle the
Is this a correct decision by the 1 st referee?	fault.
	If during the rally after the 3rd team hit the ball
	passes/hits the antenna, then the action is to whistle
	•
	and the signal is also OUT.
	Rule 8.4.3, 23.3.2.3. i, 24.3.2.8., 27.2.1.3
<u>3.31 (</u> 3.27/2016)	Ruling
A served ball hit the net just under the white band at	Whistle the instant it is clear the ball will not cross
the top of the net. When should the 1 st referee	the net through the crossing space. The 1 st referee
whistle?	must not wait until the ball hits the floor or a player
	of the serving team.
	Rule 12.6.2.1
2 22 (2 20 /2016)	Dulling
3.32 (3.29/2016)	Ruling
Team 'A' served. The ball hit the net and dropped	Yes – the 1^{st} referee must whistle immediately the
towards the floor on 'A''s side of the net. A player of	ball fails to cross the net. At this moment the ball is
'B' reached under the net and caught the ball before	out of play.
it hit the floor.	
Is this allowed?	Rule 12.6.2.1

ATTACK HIT

<u>3.33</u> (3.30/2016)	Ruling
A back row setter jumped from within the attack	Yes. The set became an illegal attack hit by a back
zone and set the ball while it was completely above	row player when the attack hit was completed (in this
the height of the net, directing it towards an	case by contacting the opponent's block). The rally
attacker. Before the attacker could contact the ball, it	should have been won by the opponents.
penetrated the vertical plane of the net where it was	
blocked by the opponent's setter. Was there a fault?	Rule 13.1.3



<u>3.34</u> (3.31/2016)	Ruling
Instead of setting the ball to a teammate, a back row	Yes - this was an attack hit by the back row player. As
setter, within the front zone, decided to tip the ball	soon as the ball was touched by the blocker, the
across the net. The ball was completely above net	illegal attack hit was completed.
height at the hit.	
Can this ball be blocked by reaching completely over	
the net?	Rules 13.1.1, 13.1.3, 13.2.2, 13.3.3
<u>3.35 (</u> 3.32/2016)	Ruling
On a second hit, a player passed the ball near the net	Even though it was only the second team hit, if the
towards the opponent's court. In the 1 st referee's	ball is moving in the direction of the opponent's
opinion, no player of 'A' could possibly reach the ball.	court, it is an attack hit. Because, in the referee's
The blocker of 'B' reached across the plane of the net	opinion, no player of 'A' could possibly have reached
and blocked the ball. What is the correct decision of	and was willing to play the ball, the block of 'B' was
the 1 st referee?	legal.
	Rules 13.1.1, 14.3, Guidelines 14.1
3.36 (3.33/2016)	Ruling

<u>3:30 (</u> 3:33/2010)	Runng
A back row player took off in the front zone and as a	No. Since the ball neither crossed the plane of the net
second hit spiked the ball which was completely	nor was contacted by the blocker, the attack hit was
higher than the top of the net. The ball rebounded	not completed.
and did not cross to the opponent. Is this a fault?	The rally continues.
	Rules 9.1, 13.1.3, 13.2.2, 13.3.3
3.37 (3.34/2016)	Ruling
'A's' receiver jumped from behind the attack line and	Yes, since the contact point of the hit was completely

3.37 (3.34/2016)	Ruling
'A's' receiver jumped from behind the attack line and	Yes, since the contact point of the hit was completely
contacted the served ball from completely higher	behind the attack line.
than the top of the net. The contact was behind the	
attack line.	
Should play continue?	Rules 13.3.4, 19.3.1.3

BLOCK

<u>3.38</u> (3.35/2016)	Ruling
'A' passed badly and the ball crossed the plane of the	The setter's "block" was illegal because he/she was a
net. The middle blocker of 'B' hit the ball across the	back row player. Intercepting a ball from opponents
net against the raised arm of the back row setter	is a block if a part of the body is above net height.
from 'A', who was still above the height of the net.	
The ball then rebounded across the net into 'B's'	
court.	Rules 14.1.1, 14.1.3, 14.6.2
Who committed the fault?	

<u>3.39 (</u> 3.36/2016)	Ruling
Is it legal for a blocker to reach over the net to block an opponent's "setting" action?	 It is a fault to block a set. However, it is absolutely necessary for the 1streferee to determine the action of the setter. He/she must know whether the set was made parallel to the net (block fault) or was going towards the net, thus making it an attack hit (no fault, if there is no setter's teammate close to the ball and willing to play it). Rules 14.1.1, 14.3

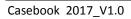


3.40 (3.37/2016) A player of 'A' blocked the attack of 'B'. Then the	Ruling Yes, to block is to intercept a ball coming from the
niddle blocker of 'B' blocked the block of 'A'. s it legal to block a blocked ball?	opponent, thus it is legal to block an opponent's block.
	Rule 14.1.1
3.41 (3.38/2016) A ball was blocked straight down. Just before the ball	Ruling Correct ruling by the 1 st referee this time.
anded on the opponent's floor, the ball slightly couched the penetrating foot on the ground of one of the blockers. The 1 st referee ruled a successful block. s this correct?	Rule 11.2.1
<u>3.42</u> (3.39/2016)	Ruling
A ball blocked by the legally penetrating blocker of team B flew some meters parallel to the net before a	Team A. The second player's action cannot be considered as block, because the ball was coming
second player of B hit the ball with a blocking action down to the floor on the side of team 'A'. The ball	from the block of his/her teammate. Thus he/she was attacking in the opponent's space -
nad never penetrated into the air space of 'B'. Who	which is a fault according to the rules.
gets next service?	Rules 11.1.2, 14.1.1, 14.2, 14.3
3.4 <u>3 (</u> 3.40/2016)	Ruling
Can an attacker hit the ball coming from the reception of his/her teammate with both hands using	It is a legal play, provided it is not a double contact or a catch or throw.
a blocking action, directing the ball to the other side of the net?	The contact must be on the player's own side of the net, however – not on the opponent's.
	net, nowever not on the opponent 3.
3.44 (3.41/2016) The ball made multiple contacts with the head and hands of several blockers. Should this be permitted?	Ruling Provided it is a blocking action and not separate actions, this counts as one block contact. After the block, a team is allowed three more ball contacts. Rules 9.1, 14.2, 14.4.1
3.45 (3.42/2016) Back row player's illegal attack versus illegal block	Ruling Double fault and therefore replay.
simultaneous contact) in the attacker's team space. What is the fault?	The attack hit by the back row player was illegal. The simultaneous block by the blocker was also illegal, because the hit was done in <u>the attacker's team</u> <u>space.</u>
	Rules 13.3.1,13.3.3, 14.1.1,14.6.1, 14.6.2
3.46 (3.43/2016)	Ruling
A back row player is separate in distance from a	No. The player was not part of the collective block
collective block and lower than the top of the net –	and was not higher than the top of the net when the
out is hit by the ball. Is this an illegal block?	ball contacted him/her. Therefore he/she cannot be a blocker. This contact is considered as a first team hit.
	Rules 9.3.1, 14.1.1
7 1 7 (2 44/2016)	Puling
3.47 (3.44/2016) The contact with the ball by a blocker was lower than	Ruling Yes – having part of the body above the net is critical;
,	the team would, therefore, have three more hits.



3.48 (3.45/2016) A blocker hit the ball when he had already come down from his jump and his whole body was lower than the top of the net. When he hit the ball again, the referee called a "double hit". Was this correct?	Ruling The decision was correct. At the moment of the ball contact, no part of the body of the blocker was higher than the top of the net. So the action could not be considered as a block, but the first contact of the team and his later contact made this a double hit. Rules 9.1, 14.1.1, 14.4.1
3.49 (3.46/2016) Illegal attack hit by back row player versus attempted Libero block- which occurs first?	Ruling The attack hit <i>becomes</i> a mistake at the moment when the ball has crossed the net totally or the block touched it. The attempt of the Libero to block was an action <i>before</i> the completion of the opponent's attack hit and is therefore the first mistake.

Rule 19.3.1.3





CHAPTER 4 - INTERRUPTIONS AND DELAYS

SUBSTITUTIONS

4.1	Ruling
	This is legal as long as this does not cause a delay. Therefore the 2 nd referee simply carries out a double substitution.
make only two substitutions. What is the procedure for the 2 nd referee?	Rules 15.10.2, 15.10.3a, 15.10.4, 16.1

4.2	Ruling
One substitute player entered the substitution zone (the scorer sounded the horn) while another one was just leaving the warm-up area to try to enter the	The moment of the request is the entrance of the substitute player(s) into the substitution zone. In this case the 2 nd referee should grant only the one for the
substitution zone. How many substitutions should be allowed under the current rules?	player who actually entered the substitution zone. The second action should be rejected as not a part of the original request. However, in such a situation the 2nd referee has the right to wave away the player trying to enter the substitution in order to prevent an improper request. With such action the 2nd referee understood very well what is meant by the "art of refereeing".
	Rules 15.10.3a, 15.10.3b, 15.11.1.3

<u>4.3</u>	Ruling
A substitution was "requested" by a team, by sending	As the first request for substitution was rejected, the
the player into the substitution zone. Because the	team was not authorized to request a second
player was not ready to play (wrong paddle/ no	consecutive substitution in the same interruption. At
paddle/ track suit, etc), his team was sanctioned with	least one rally must be completed before there can
a delay warning and the substitution was rejected. As	be another request for substitution by the same
soon as the delay sanction was applied, the team	team.
again requested the substitution. Was it allowed to	
make this second request during the same	Rule 15.3.2
interruption?	
<u>4.4</u>	Ruling
The substitute player had entered the substitution	Not correct. In FIVB, World and Official Competitions,
zone with the wrong "numbered paddle" (e.g. own	the substitute player must enter the substitution
paddle) for substitution. He fumbled to get the	zone with the correct "numbered paddle". Thus, the
correct one. The 1 st referee awarded a delay sanction,	request for substitution by the team must be
but allowed the substitution.	rejected, and a delay sanction must be awarded.
Is this the correct response by the 1 st referee?	Rules 15.10.3a, 16.1.1, 16.2
<u>4.5</u>	Ruling
If a substitute steps into the substitution zone just as	
the whistle sounds for service, should the 2 nd referee	
permit the substitution?	continue if the game has not been stopped and it was
	the first improper request for this team.
	However, if the game has been stopped due to this
	request (the player on court goes to the substitution

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zone or the teams wait for the referee's decision,

4.6	Ruling
	Rules 15.10.3a, 15.11.1.1, 15.11.3, 16.2
	considered as delay.
	repeated improper request by this team, which is
	The same procedure should be followed if it was a
	delay will result.
	substitution should not be granted, and a sanction for
	should be interrupted by the whistle, the
	etc) it should be considered as delay. The rally

<u>4.6</u>	Ruling
Player #8 entered the substitution zone with paddle	The decision was correct. The substitution of #8 and
#10. The coach insisted on the substitution with #9.	#10 would have been legal. However, the coach
After a short discussion, the 2 nd referee rejected the	insisted on the substitution of #8 for #9. Because the
substitution and the team was sanctioned with a delay	wrong paddle was shown and this caused a delay, the
warning.	referee correctly sanctioned the team for delay.
Was the decision correct?	Substitution should be rejected.
	Rules 16.1.1, 16.2

4.7	Ruling
A player became injured and had to be substituted	Yes, the decision was correct.
exceptionally. During the same game interruption,	The first player had to be substituted by an
the team requested an additional substitution. The	exceptional substitution due to injury. The team still
2 nd referee accepted the request.	had the right to REQUEST a substitution in the same
Was the 2 nd referee's decision correct to accept the	interruption.
request?	
	Rule 15.7

<u>4.8</u> . (9.4/2016)	Ruling:
Player #6 of team 'A' was disqualified from the match, and legally substituted by #7. This was the first substitution for team 'A' during the set, and there were three more players on the bench. During the next rally, team 'A' player #7 became injured and	Since the injured player #7 cannot be substituted legally, although this would be only the second substitution in the set for this team, he/she should be substituted exceptionally.
was not able to continue to play. How should the game be continued?	Rules 15.7,15.8

4.9	Ruling
A player listed on the line-up sheet was injured	Yes – but it should be shown formally by substitution
before the start of the match. Can he be substituted	signal (coach and 2nd referee so that everyone
before the match?	understands the situation) and must be recorded on
	the score sheet as a regular substitution.
	Rules 7.3.2, 7.3.4

<u>4.10</u>	Ruling
Player #7 of team 'A' was found to be on the court	Since team 'A' had an incorrect line-up, which was
when he should have been on the bench. Team 'A'	caused by an illegal substitution, the procedure given
had used the allowable six team substitutions. Since	in Rule 15.9.2 should be the following:
there were no legal substitutions remaining, what	a. Point and service for team 'B'.
was the proper procedure to be used by the officials?	b. The substitution must be rectified. #7 has to be
	removed from the set and the correct player
	must return to the court. This correction does not
	count as regular substitution.
	c. All points scored by team 'A' while #7 was in the



game illegally must be cancelled, but the score of the opponent's team will remain as it is.
d. There is no further penalty for team 'A'.
Rule 15.9.2

4.11	Ruling
After team 'B' had used five substitutions, two	The 2 nd referee has to remind the coach that only one
substitute players entered the substitution zone. What is the proper response of the 2 nd referee?	substitution will be possible and ask the coach which one will be made.
	Provided there is no delay, the other substitution will
	be rejected as an improper request which is marked
	in the score sheet.
	Rules 15.5, 15.6, 15.11, 16.1

<u>4.12</u> (4.13/2016)	Ruling
A team requested two substitutions. When checking the substitutions, the scorer indicated that one of the requests for substitution was legal and the other request for substitution was illegal. What is the proper response of the 2 nd referee?	The 2 nd referee allows the legal substitution to take
	Rules 15.6, 16.1.3

4.13 (4.14/2016)	Ruling
A team was refused a requested substitution by the scorer pressing the buzzer a second time. When the 2 nd referee checked the score sheet, she discovered that the substitution was, in fact, "legal", and "re-	The procedure of the 2 nd referee was correct. Changing decisions, however, can create a very
corrected" the situation. This was quite embarrassing. What should have been the response of the 2 nd referee?	

<u>4.14</u> (4.15/2016) A substitute player was standing in the substitution zone, ready to enter. However, the player on court initially refused to leave the court. Is this delay? Should the substitution be refused?	Ruling Yes, it is delay. However, the substitution THIS TIME should be allowed, because the request was legal according to the rules and the player <i>in play</i> caused this special case, and the substitute player did not cause the delay. However where the substitute (entering) player is not ready and causes a delay, the correct application of the rule is to reject the substitution and give a sanction to the team for delay.
	Rules 16.1.1, 23.2.3
4.15 (4.16/2016) If the line-up sheet does not match the court positions what does the 2 nd referee do?	Ruling The 2 nd referee should show the line-up sheet to the coach and ask what he wants to do. If the coach wishes to keep what is on court, he needs to make legal substitutions at 0:0. This is one of the situations,



where the coach must give the hand signal to avoid
misunderstandings.
The 2 nd referee also must carry this out formally for
public understanding of the situation.
Rules 7.3.5.2, 7.3.5.3

4.16 (4.17/2016)	Ruling
Player #6, ready to play, entered the substitution zone during an interruption. The scorer acknowledged the request by using the buzzer. At that moment the coach changed his/her mind and ordered the player back into the warm-up area. Should the substitution have been applied and what should have been the correct procedure?	acknowledged by the scorer in using the buzzer. Due

4.17 (4.18/2016) VIDEO	Ruling
After the whistle for service, a substitute player	The 2 nd referee was correct. This was a typical case of
entered the substitution zone. The scorer ignored	an improper request, which had to be recorded in
this, and the game didn't stop. After the end of the	the score sheet. If this was a repeated improper
rally the 2 nd referee told the scorer to record an	request, a delay sanction must have been issued.
improper request in the score sheet. Was this the	Rules 15.11.2, 16.1.1
right procedure?	

4.18 (4.19/2016)	Ruling
If a scorer presses the buzzer for substitution by	No, since the fault is made by the scorer, this should
mistake (after the whistle for service/ player doesn't	not be considered either as improper request or as a
enter the substitution zone), should the team be	delay.
charged with an improper request?	Rules 15.10.3a, 15.10.3c

4.19 (4.20/2016)	Ruling
4.19 (4.20/2016) An unregistered player was found to be on court. What do the officials do?	The coach and the team captain have the duty to control the registration of players and confirm it with their signature. Unregistered players who have played in the match will be removed from the court as soon as this is discovered, in favour of a legitimate registered player. All points scored while this unregistered player was on court will be cancelled, and the opponents will gain a point and the next service. If the mistake is detected after the end of the set, the set would be lost by the team at fault. If the mistake is discovered after the end of the match, the whole match would be lost due to the unregistered player in the match.
	Rules 4.1.3, 4.2.2, 5.1.1, 5.2.2, 7.3.5.4, 15.9.2

4.20 (4.21/2016)	Ruling
During an interruption, the receiving team 'A'	Yes. Because there was in fact a completed rally (as
requested a substitution. During this interruption,	defined in the rules) between the two requests for
team 'B' was penalized, which caused team 'A' to	substitution.
rotate one position. After this, team 'A' requested a	Rule 15.2.2
new substitution.	
Is this possible?	



4.21 (4.22.1/2016) At the control of the line-up, the 2 nd referee detected that the number of the Libero was in the starting line-up. He asked the coach to correct the line-up sheet and informed the scorer about it. After this the match started. Was the procedure correct?	Ruling In this case, the 2 nd referee should ask the coach for a new and correct line-up sheet (which can be changed only in the position, where the Libero was recorded by mistake). Once the corrected line up sheet has been checked against the new line up on court, the 2 nd referee will allow the Libero to enter the court. Rule 7.3.5.2
4.22 (4.22.2/2016) A team requests a substitution, which is not granted because of a wrong paddle. This action caused a delay penalty, because the team had already had a	Ruling Yes. As penalties are considered as completed rallies, the new request can be accepted in this case.
warning. Can the team make a new request for	Rule 6.1.3 – 15 - 15.2.1, 15.11.1.3

TIME-OUTS AND TECHNICAL TIME-OUTS

substitution?

4.23	Ruling
Team B executed a service by a wrong player. This fault was discovered later in the set, at the end of the next TTO. After that the referees applied correctly the respective consequences (cancellation of points gained by team 'B' with the faulty rotation, rectifying the line-up, service and point to team 'A') Should the referees apply again a TTO, when the leading team reaches the same score for TTO?	No, only 1 TTO is to be applied in the first 4 sets at the following score: when the leading team reaches the 8 th and 16 th points. Rule 15.4.1

<u>4.24</u>	Ruling
Which comes first – an automatic Technical Time out	A TTO has to be granted before a regular game
or a request for time out by a coach?	interruption. If after the TTO the coach wanted to
	have also a normal TO, the team should request this
	again.
	Rule 15.4.2

IMPROPER REQUESTS

4.25 VIDEO	Ruling
Can a team request a substitution before AND after a time out, all taking place in the same interruption in play?	No – while two Time outs can be called by the same team in the same interruption, two successive substitution requests are NOT allowed and the second one should be considered as an improper request.
	Rules 15.3.1, 15.3.2, 15.10.3a, 15.11.1.3, 25.2.2.6



4.26 (4.26.1/2016) VIDEO	Ruling
A coach made a third request for time-out, which was granted by the 2^{nd} referee. At that moment the scorer realized that it was the third time-out for this team and notified the 2^{nd} referee about this. What is the proper procedure for the officials?	Normally this is improper request – but here an
	Rules 15.11.1.4, 16.1.5, 25.2.2.6

<u>4.27</u> (4.26.2/2016)	Ruling
Is it possible to have an improper request AFTER the	Yes it is. While unusual, a delay can be followed by an
team has already been awarded a DELAY warning or	improper request – it is not an escalation of the
penalty?	delay!
	The rule regarding improper requests and the rule for
	delay are both quite specific in what constitutes an
	improper request/ what constitutes a delay. So that,
	even if the team has already been guilty of delay,
	some actions are ONLY improper requests and are
	not combined within the earlier delay.
	Rule 15.5, 16.1

INJURIES

4.28 (4.27/2016) VIDEO	Ruling
Can a player play with a nose bleed?	Referees must use discretion if an injury occurs in which a player bleeds. If an immediate medical treatment does not rectify the injury he/she must be substituted or replaced until the bleeding is stopped and the blood is removed from the player's uniform. A substitute player must be permitted a reasonable time to take off his/her training suit and enter the game. It is an acceptable procedure by the 1 st referee to give neither a delay sanction nor to ask the team for a game interruption.
	Rules 4.4, 15.5, 15.10.2, 15.10.3a, 17.1.1

4.29 (4.28/2016)	Ruling
A setter injured his knee while playing defence. He	The decision of the 1 st referee was correct. For the
remained lying on the floor while the coaches	safety of the player, the 1 st referee must stop the
gathered around him and the team doctor checked	rally immediately when an injury occurs and permit
his injury. After about two minutes of therapy, the	the team doctor and/or medical assistance to enter
setter declared that he was able to play again. The	the court. If the injury appears to be serious and
referee then signalled to continue the match with	severe enough, the player should be removed from
him.	the court for at least one rally.
Was this the correct decision by the 1 st referee?	The principle decision by the 1 st referee is to give the
	player or/and the team doctor a reasonable time to
	know the seriousness of the injury, yet to limit the
	time before the substitution is required.
	Rules 15.7, 17.1.2



<u>4.30</u> (4.29.1/2016) VIDEO An accident occurs at the moment of a substitution, which causes the substitute player's nose to bleed. What is the correct procedure?	Ruling First of all the referee should request medical assistance. It is necessary to stop the game. If the player cannot recover, a legal substitution should be applied although it is a second substitution within the same interruption. If no legal substitution is possible an exceptional substitution will be applied. Rules 15.11.1.3
4.31 (4.29.2/2016) The team captain is injured before the start of the match. How should the situation be handled?	Ruling The process is determined by the moment of the injury. The main principle is written in rule 4.1.3, when the score sheet has been signed by captains and coaches, i.e. after the toss, the team has no right to change the team roster (except, when the Libero is injured, has no chance to play and the coach wants to re-designate the original team captain as the new Libero).
	Based on this if the injury of the team captain occurred before the toss and he/she cannot play, the coach should designate a new team captain, putting a stripe under the number and circling the player's number in the score sheet. This new team captain will have all duties and rights (i.e. represents his/her team at the toss).
	If the original team captain's injury occurred after the toss, the coach has no right to designate another player as team captain. However, the coach should designate a "general game captain" who takes the rights and duties of the original team captain and signs the score sheet after the match. In both situations the fact of the injury should be recorded in the score sheet.
	Rule 4.1.3, 5.1, 5.2.1, 5.2.2, 19.4.2.5, 25.2.2.7

4.32 (4.29.3/2016)	Ruling
Following a substitution by team "A", the rally has	Yes, it is.
been interrupted due to the injury of a team "A"	Although it is improper to request a second
player; the player cannot continue in the game.	substitution without a completed rally, where there
Although there is no completed rally between the	is a <i>force majeure</i> situation like this, it is permitted
requests for substitution, is it legal to substitute the	to remove the injured/ill player on court by a
injured player?	substitution.
	Rule 15.11.1.3

4.33 (new) VIDEO**Ruling**What is the correct procedure, if an injured player is
not able to complete the substitution formally
through the substitution zone? (e.g. carried off the
court)?In order, that the substitute player should take the
numbered paddle of the injured player and
enter the substitution zone. The 2nd referee



should be given the paddle to return it to the
team.
Rules 15.10.1, 17.1.1

DELAYS TO THE GAME

4.34 (4.30/2016) Prior to the start of the third set of a match, the 1 st referee whistled the teams to enter the court. One team did not react. When they were too slow to respond, the 1 st referee issued a delay warning to them. The team then entered the court. Was this the appropriate action by the 1 st referee?	Ruling Yes, the 1 st referee acted correctly. The teams must be summoned to take their positions on the court. If they do not react, the 1 st referee must issue a delay warning to them. If the team still did not react, a delay penalty would have been given. If this also proved to be ineffective, it would have been judged a refusal to play, the team would have been declared to be in default and the match would have been forfeited. In such a case, the score would have been recorded as 0:3 (0:25, 0:25, 0:25). If a team is returning slowly to the court after a time- out, the same procedure should be followed. Rules 6.4.1, 16.1
<u>4.35 (</u> 4.31/2016)	Ruling
Will a team be sanctioned for delay if it forms a huddle on court?	There is no requirement for the 1 st referee to allow more than a reasonable time for the players to move to their positions for the next rally. However, he must allow for appropriate enthusiasm and cheering but cannot allow the game to be delayed. The 1 st referee should urge the team to take their position. If the he realises, that the players uses this behaviour as a tactic for delaying the game, the team consistently should be sanctioned by delay. Rules 16.1.2, 16.1.5
A 36 (A 33/3016)	Duling
4.36 (4.32/2016) A player refused to play because of a wet place on the floor caused by a team member diving for a ball. What is the proper response of the 1 st referee?	Ruling The 1 st referee should <u>never accept the request</u> of the team wiping a wet spot on the floor, because the request is the subject for a delay sanction. The "quick moppers" should mop the wet spot on the floor. Players may also use their own small towels to mop the floor. When the 1 st referee deems it necessary to mop the floor by the moppers, he may give the order. The control of the match is always by decision of the 1 st referee, if there is no Control Committee. If finally the team still refuses to play, the referee can sanction the team with either delay or default sanctions. Rules 1.5, 5.1.2.2, 6.4.1, 16.2
4.37 (4.33/2016)	Ruling
During an interval between two sets, an entire team	Firstly a team is not allowed to leave the competition

went to their locker room and returned after 5 without permission of the referees. area minutes. The 1st referee issued a delay sanction, and Nevertheless, after two and a half minutes, the $\mathbf{2}^{nd}$ referee should go to the team and remind them to Was this an appropriate reaction of the referee? enter the court immediately so as not to be declared

the game was continued.



in default. After they are back on the court, the 1 st referee should issue a delay sanction.
Rules 4.2, 6.4.1, 6.4.2, 18.1

EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE

4.38 (4.34/2016) What is the correct response of the 1 st referee if spectators interrupt the match?	Ruling The 1 st referee should stop the match and the organizer or the Control Committee should take steps to re-establish the order. This interruption should be recorded on the score sheet.
	Rules 17.2, 17.3
4.39 (4.36/2016) After a player's dig in the free zone behind the end line the ball hit the crane camera which had penetrated into the playing space. The referees should stop the game. How should the 1 st referee consider this action - as "OUT" or a "external interference"?	Ruling Within the playing area the players have the priority to play. If the ball hits an outside object or a person penetrating from outside the playing area, e.g. the crane TV camera or a journalist reaching in to catch the ball, it should be considered as "external interference" and the rally should be replayed. Rule 17.2



CHAPTER 5 – LIBERO	
5.1 Can the Libero enter the game without the 2 nd referee's permission after checking the line-up before the set?	Ruling Yes, he can. The starting player must be on the court at the time of the line-up check. As soon as the 2 nd referee has checked the line-up, the Libero may replace the back row player. The team does not need to start with or use a Libero. Rules 19.3.2.4, 19.3.2.8, 24.3.1
5.2	Ruling
A team has already applied all legal substitutions in a set when a player on court is expelled and the Libero is sitting on the bench. How should the match continue?	The expelled/disqualified player should be immediately substituted legally. Since there is no possibility for that, the team has to be declared incomplete and will lose the set. (Note: exceptional substitutions are not an option here). Rules 6.4.3, 15.7,15.8
	1
5.3 Can the Libero be allowed to enter the match by a regular substitution procedure in place of an injured player?	Ruling No. The Libero is not allowed to participate in any substitution, regular or exceptional. Rules 15.5, 15.7, 17
5.4 The Libero was on the court for player #5 and was expelled from the set. What is the correct process to continue the match?	 Ruling If the team has two Liberos, the coach may replace the sanctioned acting Libero immediately by the second Libero or by the #5. If the team has only one Libero, the team may chose: to send player #5 back to the court in place of the Libero and play without a Libero for the remainder of the set, or the coach re-designates a new Libero from the players not on the court in the moment of redesignation and the new Libero may immediately and directly replace the expelled acting Libero (who is not allowed to play for the remainder of the match). Rules 6.4.3, 19.1.1, 19.3.2, 19.3.2.8, 19.4
5.5 VIDEO	Puling
Can a Libero replacement take place at the same time as a substitution?	RulingYes - because the "replacement" is not a"substitution" and vice versa.Rules 15.3.2, 19.3.2, 19.3.2.8
5.6 The Libero replacing the player in position 1 did it after the referee's whistle for service but before the service hit. What is the proper response by the 1 st referee?	Ruling If this was the first occurrence in the match, the 1 st referee should allow the rally to continue uninterrupted. After the rally, he/she should advise the game captain that this is not a correct procedure. Subsequent late replacements should trigger delay sanctions immediately, interrupting the rally. <i>The Libero replacement remains valid, however.</i>



	If the replacement has been made $\frac{after the service}{hit}$ the 1 st referee should whistle this as a positional fault.
	Rule 19.3.2.5
5.7 A team made an illegal Libero replacement, but it was noticed before the service hit was made. How should this be handled?	Ruling If noticed, the 2 nd referee will use the whistle to call back the player. The illegal replacement will be cancelled and the team will be sanctioned for delay. If noticed after the game continued, the consequences are the same as for an illegal substitution.
	Rules 19.3.2.1, 19.3.2.9, 23.2.3

<u>5.8</u> (5.9/2016)	Ruling
While running after a ball, the team's only Libero (replacing N°4) injured his leg muscle and could no longer play.	Not directly because the replacement player is excepted from a re-designation at the moment of the request for re-designation.
The coach then decided that he wanted player N°4 to become the re-designated Libero. Is this possible?	If the coach wants player N° 4 to be the new Libero, N° 4 at first has to return to court replacing the injured Libero, and be substituted legally. Then he can enter the court as the new Libero only after one completed rally, because the second replacement would be an illegal one in the same interruption. Rules 19.1.3., 19.3.2.2, 19.3.2.8, 19.4.2
<u>5.9. (</u> 5.10/2016)	Ruling
Is it allowed to be a coach and the Libero at the same time?	Yes. The rules state that the Libero cannot be the team or game captain. The rules do not forbid the Libero from being the coach or instructing the team behind the coach restriction line.
	Rule 5.2.3.4
5.10 (5.11/2016)	Ruling
A mistake by two players led to the Libero/	No, this does not count as a replacement, because

A mistake by two players led	to the Libero/	No, this does not count as a replacement, because
replacement player leaving the co	ourt briefly (this	there must be one completed rally between two
event had not yet been recorded	l on the Libero	Libero replacements. This was an obvious mistake but
control sheet)- but they corrected	ed the mistake	should not be counted as a fault.
immediately themselves.		
Is this counted as a replacement?		Rules 19.3.2.1, 19.3.2.2

<u>5.11</u> (5.12/2016)	Ruling
A team forgot to replace the Libero when he rotated	When there is a properly registered player not legally
to the front row in position 4. After three points, the	on court, this must be penalized with a point and
1 st referee noticed that the Libero was on court	service to the opponent, the line-up must be rectified
illegally.	and the points scored by the team at fault since the
What is the correct decision for the referee to make?	moment the fault was committed (if it can be
	determined) must be cancelled. The opponent's
	points remain valid.
	Rules 15.9, 19.3.1.1, 26.2.2.1, 26.2.2.2



	- u
<u>5.12.</u> (5.13/2016)	Ruling
During the official warm-up, when the line-up sheet	Yes, he can.
had already been submitted to the scorer, including	While it is true that the Libero cannot be team or
the team captain, the team's single Libero was	game captain the team captain can give up his
injured.	position and all rights and duties linked to it, in order
Can the captain become the new Libero and what a	to play as the re-designated Libero. Since the team
procedure should be applied?	captain was already on the line-up sheet, the
	sequence of actions should be as follows:
	1. Substitution of the team captain with another
	player by a regular substitution before the match
	begins.
	2. Request by the coach to appoint a new team
	captain.
	3. Re-designation of the new Libero.
	4. Request from the referee that the new Libero
	changes his / her uniform to that of a Libero (or
	covers his/ her own uniform by a bib or a jacket
	kept for the purpose in the reserve equipment).
	5. Request the scorer to:
	•
	 Re-register the original team captain as the new or re-designated Libera (to replace the
	new or re-designated Libero (to replace the
	original Libero),
	Register the new team captain.
	The details of these re-registrations/ re-designations
	must be written in the "REMARKS" box of the score
	sheet.
	Rules 5, 19.2, 19.3.2.8, 19.4.2.5,

5.13. (5.14/2016)	Ruling
The Libero was replaced and immediately sent back	No. This is a typical case for illegal Libero
to the court (without any rally between the two	replacement. At the moment of the 2 nd replacement
replacements).	the 2 nd referee should reject it, and the 1 st referee
Is this permitted?	should issue a delay sanction. Where an assistant
	scorer acts, it is his/her duty to check the Libero
	replacements.
	In this case, in the moment he/ she should press the
	buzzer, signalling the fault committed.
	Rules 19.3.2.9, 23.2.3

<u>5.14.</u> (5.15/2016)	Ruling
The Libero was replaced by a regular player. After the service, a reserve ball penetrated into the playing court, and the rally was stopped. Before the whistle for the replayed rally, the Libero attempted to replace the player in position #6. The 2 nd referee	replacement the 2 nd referee should reject it, and the
called him back. Is this a correct action by the 2 nd referee?	Rule19.3.2.1

<u>5.15.</u> (5.16/2016)	Ruling
The Libero of a team became injured during the	No, it should not have been allowed. Even though it
match, and the 2 nd referee authorized the medical	was the case of injury, the Libero could be replaced
doctor, with the coach in attendance, to be on the	through a regular replacement. Also, the Libero still



court for checking the seriousness of the injury. They	has the right to participate in the match until he/she
decided to take the Libero out of the court and send	is declared unable to continue (Rule 19.4.2).
the replaced player back on the court. After he was	Thus, this situation was a mistake because two
led off the court, the Libero claimed he had	consecutive replacements took place without any
recovered and insisted on returning to the court to	completed rally in between. This is a case for illegal
play. The referees allowed the Libero to go back on	Libero replacement.
the court and to resume the match.	Rules 19.3.2.1, 19.3.2.8
Was this correct?	

<u>5.16 (</u> 5.17/2016)	Ruling
The Libero of team 'A' injured his/her arm during the	Yes. The player was mobile, not providing any
match, and a new Libero was re-designated. The	obstruction or danger to himself/herself or team-
original Libero sat on the bench for the remainder of	mates.
the match.	This last point is crucial to the ruling. The player
Should this have been permitted?	should be permitted to stay on the bench. Had the
	player to be treated, the team doctor should have
	been advised to place the player behind the bench or
	in a place of safety outside the Competition-Control
	area.
	Diagram 1a and Definitions.
	Rule 19.3.2.8

<u>5.17.</u> (5.18/2016)	Ruling
When can two Libero replacements take place in the	Only in 2 cases can 2 Libero replacements take place
same interruption for the same team?	in the same interruption.
	1. when a penalty has been issued
	2. when immediately following the Libero entered the
	court, a rally became incomplete due to the injury
	of the Acting Libero
	Rules 6.1.3, 19.3.2.1

vo Liberos, in case of injury or illness ero, he/she can be replaced by the the case where a team has only one cond Libero has become unable to rt, he/she can be replaced by the re- edure. Rules 19.3.2.2,

	Ruling This is an administrative mistake and will not have any consequences for the team. The scorer will correct the number in the 'Remarks' box.
What should happen if discovered?	Rule 19.1.2
F 30 (F 31/2016)	Duling

<u>5.20 (</u> 5.21/2016)	Ruling
In the 1 st set of a match, the Libero of 'A' played in a	Because the wrong shirt had no influence on the
shirt with the same colour and design as the rest of	game, the result of the 1 st set will not be cancelled
the team. Before the start of the 2 nd set, the coach of	and no sanction is to be issued to team 'A'. The
'B' protested against this situation. What is the	Libero has to change his/her shirt, however.
correct decision?	Rule 19.2



<u>5.21.</u> (5.22/2016)	Ruling
Two players tried to block an opponent's attack and	The decision was not correct. Because the Libero
jumped at the net. Between them the Libero also	didn't reach at any time with any part of his body
jumped, but didn't reach at any time with any part of	higher than the top of the net, his/her jumping could
his/her body higher than the top of the net.	not be considered as a block attempt.
Nevertheless the 2 nd referee whistled this as block	· ·
attempt. Was this decision correct?	Rules 14.1.1, 14.1.2, 14.1.3
p	
<u>5.22 (</u> 5.23/2016)	Ruling
The Libero came off court. The server was whistled	This service (fault) is to be considered as a completed
for a delay in service (8 seconds).	rally. Therefore the Libero will be allowed to re-enter
Can the Libero now re-enter the court?	the court.
	Rules 6.1.3, 19.3.2.1, 19.3.2
<u>5.23.</u> (5.24/2016)	Ruling
The coach declared the single Libero unable to play	Except for the regular replacement player, any player
and wanted to re-designate a new Libero.	on the bench at the moment of the request for re-
	designation can be re-designated as the new Libero.
Who can be re-designated as the new Libero and	The original Libero cannot come back into the match
when?	at any time.
	If the coach wants the regular replacement player to
	be the new Libero, he/she first must substitute
	him/her legally.
	If the Acting Libero is declared unable to play, he/she
	must be replaced by the regular replacement player
	and the new Libero has the right to enter the court
	after one completed rally because the second
	replacement would be an illegal one.
	Rules 19.3.2.8, 19.4.2.1, 19.4.2.4
	······································

<u>5.24. (new)</u> VIDEO	Ruling
A team had 2 Liberos recorded, No. 11 and 16. The	The Libero has no right to take part either by legal, or
latter wore a shirt with the same colour and design as	exceptional substitution. Therefore the substitution
the normal players of the team. The team requested	request should be considered as an illegal one.
a substitution and the player No. 16 appeared in the	Because this was discovered before the game
substitution zone to substitute a player on court. The	resumed, the request should be denied and a delay
scorer immediately signalled, that this request was	sanction should be issued for the faulty team.
not a legal one. How should the game continue?	The Libero has to change his/her shirt, however.
	The referees should control carefully the teams and
	the players' uniform comparing the players and shirt
	numbers before the match in due time in order to
	avoid such a situation.
	Rule 15.5.1, 15.7, 16.1.3, 19.2
5.25. (new)	Ruling
A team had 2 Liberos recorded. After the 2^{nd} set the	Yes, it is allowed.
coach declared both Liberos unable to play and re-	It is not forbidden to declare both Liberos unable to
designated one new Libero to replace them. Is it	play in the same time. None of original Liberos may
allowed	re-enter the match after the re-designation, but they
	have the right to sit on the bench or to be in the
	warming-up area.
	Rule 19.4.2.1, 19.4.2.2.



CHAPTER 6 – PARTICIPANTS' CONDUCT

<u>6.1</u> The 1 st referee warned a player for minor misconduct, going directly to STAGE 2 of the minor misconduct procedures, and showing the player a yellow card, to be recorded on the score sheet. Is this a correct action by the 1 st referee?	Ruling This is a correct action by the referee. Such minor misconducts must be controlled by the 1 st referee. The yellow card must be recorded. The 1 st referee may give a verbal warning to the team via the game captain (stage 1) if the minor misconduct is of a general nature. Although, depending of the seriousness of minor misconduct he/she may start with stage 2 showing a yellow card directly to the concerned player or team member through the game captain. The referee has the authority to go directly to the issuing of sanctions if an offence is of a serious nature. Rules 21.1, 21.2	
	· - ···	
<u>6.2</u> The 2 nd referee observed an attempted deception (a blocker pulled the net) and whistled for the attacking team to win the rally. The 1 st referee then signalled a warning to the player by using a yellow card. Is this the correct penalization for him/her?	Ruling The decision of the 1 st referee was not correct. The rally should have been won by the attacking team because of the net contact by the opposite player which interfered with the play. The blocker then should have received a penalty for the rude conduct of attempting to mislead the referees. Rules 21.2.1, 21.3	
6.3	Ruling	
The Coach of 'A' stood up at the end of a rally and waved his arms in a manner that suggested disgust with the referee's decision. Is this allowed?	The coach should be allowed to express certain normal responses. If the response is judged to be minor misconduct reaching the stage 2 level, the coach should be warned by the 1 st referee by use of a yellow card. If repeated, he should be penalized with a red card for rude conduct. If the infraction occurred during a rally, the penalty should be given at the end of the rally in addition to the result of the rally. Rules 5.2, 21.1, 21.2, 21.3	
Kules 5.2, 21.1, 21.2, 21.3		
6.4 Between sets a penalty for rude conduct was given by the 1 st referee to Team 'A' which had the first service for the next set. What happens next?	Ruling Sanctions imposed between sets are set against the next set. Thus, before the first service, the 1 st referee should signal the penalty for team A. The team B gains one point, rotates and serves. Rule 21.5	
	 The following is a summary of infractions which occur between sets, the penalties for which must be recorded on the score sheet: Warning against a member of any team (yellow card). Penalty against a serving team member. The receiving team gains a point, rotates and gains the 	



	 service. Penalty against a receiving team member. Point awarded to the serving team. Penalties against each team no matter in which order. Each team gains a point (score 1-1) and each team rotates one position. The score is counted only when each team has been penalized. Thus, a double penalty at the score of 24-25 would not end the set at 24-26, but the score would be 25-26.
6.5 After the end of a rally, the setter pulled down the bottom of the net. Should this have been a fault?	Ruling According to Rule 21.3, the 1 st referee has the authority to sanction a player according to the seriousness of the offence. Pulling down the net may be a normal emotional reaction of a disappointed player and can be controlled by the art of refereeing. In some cases, intentional pulling down of the net may be considered as a rude conduct. Since this case was not an attempt to mislead the referee during play, there should be no penalty for rude conduct.
	Rules 21.2, 21.2.1, 21.3
<u>6.6</u> A player walked towards the 1 st referee gesturing wildly and shouting to him even after a warning. How should we consider this action?	Ruling This should be regarded as Offensive Conduct, and sanctioned by red and yellow cards jointly. Rules 21.1, 21.2, 21.3
 6.7 A player was expelled directly from the court with no prior warning. How should we regard a subsequent minor misconduct from any other member of the same team? 	Ruling The 1 st referee should normally try to prevent a team from reaching the sanctioning level. However, should a clear case of offensive conduct be committed in the first instance, the referee must expel the player without a previous sanction. The 1 st referee may issue a warning to other team members after the expulsion – but once the yellow card is shown, it may not be shown again to any member of the team. Rule 21
<u>6.8</u> After the match one team captain showed very unsportsmanlike behaviour towards the 1 st referee. What is the correct procedure of the 1 st referee?	Ruling The player must still be sanctioned in some way. However, for FIVB events, since the match is regarded as not finished by the last whistle of the referees, the behaviour of the team captain must be reported to the Game Jury, and the details of the misconduct recorded in the REMARKS box of the score sheet. The FIVB Control Committee has a range



6.9 The Libero replacement was sitting on the bench. The 1 st referee sanctioned him by issuing a penalty. The player did not stop this behaviour and applauded the referee. The 1 st referee sanctioned him with an expulsion. The expelled player continued the behaviour and received a disqualification. What is the correct procedure?	 substituted legally immediately. The sequence of procedure is the following: the Libero should leave the court, then
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CHAPTER 7 – THE REFEREES AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES

7.1 The 2 nd referee told a coach not to talk with or distract the scorer. Is this a correct action by the 2 nd referee?	Ruling In the spirit of the art of refereeing, if such situations can be resolved by the 2 nd referee without formality, this can be done. Rule 23.3.2.2
7.2 Can a reserve player sit on the floor in the warm-up area instead of standing or stretching?	Ruling Players are not required to stand in the warm-up area. On the other hand, players may not sit on benches, chairs, rails or walls in the warm-up area. Rules 4.2.1, 4.2.3, 24.2.4, 24.2.5
<u>7.3</u> Can a coach ask the scorer for information about the number of time-outs that had been taken by the <u>other</u> team?	Ruling The scorer should not respond to the coach. Generally, coaches are not permitted to ask the scorers for any information. However, where an electronic scoreboard is used, but the number of used game interruptions is not indicated, the coaches have the right to ask the scorer for this information, but only about their own team and at a time which is neither distracting to the scorer nor delaying the match.
	Rule 25.2.2
<u>7.4</u> Can a captain make a formal protest on the score sheet if he has not notified the referee of his intention during the match?	Ruling If at the time of any incident, the game captain made no mention of a protest, he cannot make a written protest on the score sheet at the end of the match. Rules 5.1.2.1, 5.1.3.2, 23.2.4
7.5 Can a refereeing decision be reversed even after the end of the set?	Ruling Yes. Up to the start of the next set, referees are allowed to correct their decisions immediately concerning the application of the rules, if they realize they were mistaken. The match score will be corrected as appropriate.
<u>7.6</u> After a request for a third time out was refused, the coach changed her mind and sent a player for substitution. Is this allowed?	RulingProvided there was no whistle for service, the request for substitution should have been allowed as proper – only the time out was improper. However, the improper request for time-out should be recorded on the score sheet.Rules 15.1, 15.2.1, 15.11, 16.1, 16.2, 24.2.6, 24.2.7



77/70/2016)	Duline
<u>7.7</u> (7.8/2016)	Ruling
During a time-out a coach met with his entire team in	The team must "go to the free zone near their bench"
the very back corner of the free zone near the warm-	during a time-out and the 2 nd referee should tell the
up zone.	team to do so.
Is this permitted?	Rule 15.4.4
<u>7.8</u> (7.9/2016)	Ruling
The assistant coach came to the sideline to assist the	The decision of the 1 st referee was correct. The
players to find a wet spot.	assistant coach is allowed to sit on the bench and
The 1 st referee called the game captain and told	may not intervene in the match. Only the coach may
him/her to tell the assistant coach to stay on the	walk near the sideline behind the coach's restriction
bench.	line.
Did the 1 st referee make a correct decision?	Rules 5.2.3.4, 5.3.1
	Rules 5.2.5.4, 5.5.1
7.0.(7.10/2016)	Duling
$\frac{7.9}{7.9}$ (7.10/2016)	Ruling
After a rally a coach asked the 2^{nd} referee if his server	The process was not correct. The only team member
was correct. The 2 nd referee checked the rotational	allowed to speak with the referees is the game
order with the scorer and replied that the correct	captain. Thus, the coach is not authorized to request
player was ready to serve. The 1 st referee continued	information from the 2^{nd} referee. The 1^{st} referee
the match.	should have called the game captain and asked her to
Is this the correct process of the referees?	remind the coach of the fact that he has no right to
	ask the referees for information.
	Rule 5.1.2
7 10 /7 11 /2010)	
7.10 (7.11 /2016)	Ruling
After the end of time-out both teams returned to the	No.
court, except one player, who was still drinking water	Before the start of a set or continuing the game after
close to the bench. The scorer had already made the	a TO or TTO the 2 nd referee's duty is to check if the
"two hands" signal ready to continue the game.	scorer has finished the administrative tasks and if
Has the 2 nd referee the right to give his "two hands" signal towards the 1 st referee?	the teams are on the court ready to play. Therefore
	if any one of the players did not enter the court after
	being summoned by the referees to continue, the
	2 nd referee has no right to give the "two hands"
	signal. After a reasonable time the 1 st referee should
	consider this action as a delay and issue the
	appropriate sanction.
	Refereeing Guidelines and Instructions 24.7
	הכוכו ככוווק סמומכווווכא מוומ ווואנו מכנוסווא 24.7



8.1 Team 'B' intentionally slowed down the tempo of the game. How should the referee respond?	PRINCIPLE The referee should keep the game at a constant tempo within the normal flow of the game. The referee should never allow any external influences to retard the flow of a good match and ruin the good performance of one of the teams. This is another "art" of refereeing.
8.2 A floor wiping towel from one of the players of 'B' fell on the court of A. What should the referees do?	Ruling If, according to the judgment of the 1 st referee, the situation is dangerous, he should stop the game immediately and direct a replay. But if the rally is finished and the falling towel will have no influence on its outcome, there is no need to direct a replay. Rule 17.2
8.3 The match was resumed on another playing court after the lights failed. What is the correct ruling on the use of a disqualified player in the third set when it started again?	Ruling The interrupted set has to be cancelled and replayed with the same team members and the same starting line-ups but neither disqualified nor expelled players are allowed to participate Another player who was on the team and not in the starting line-up must take his place. Furthermore, all other sanctions which have been recorded on the score sheet up to the point that the lights went out must be carried over into the new set. Rule 17.3.2.2
<u>8.4</u> VIDEO When passing the net post to retrieve a 1 st hit passing outside the antenna, a player grabbed the referee's chair to turn rapidly enough to get to the ball. Is this taking support?	Ruling No. To judge, if the action was legal, <u>the moment of</u> <u>the playing the ball</u> is the crucial point. Because the player did not take any support while he was hitting the ball, his action cannot be judged as an assisted hit. Legal and attractive play. Rule 9.1.3
8.5 After a substitution, the 1 st referee realised the point should go the other way. The coach therefore requested to reverse the substitution. Is this possible?	Ruling Since the 1 st referee changed his/her decision, which was the basis of the substitution, in the spirit of the game the coach's request could be accepted. No substitution would be charged against this team.



The cases shown above are specifically designed to be short, easily read and easily understood – i.e. to make them accessible to a larger audience.

The following cases contain extended versions of some of the same cases, to permit a more exhaustive analysis of the event as it actually took place.

<u>9.1</u> VIDEO	Ruling
A player passed the received ball so, that it would have crossed the net if not touched by another player of the same team. The setter was in position to make a legal play on the ball. The opponent's blocker reached across the vertical plane of the net and blocked the ball before the setter could play it. The 1 st referee called a fault on the block. Is this a correct decision of 1 st referee?	The 1 st referee's decision was correct, and the block was illegal. Blockers may not contact the ball beyond the net until the attack hit is executed, except when in the judgment of the 1 st referee, no possibility and willingness exists for further play of the ball by the attacking team. Rule 14.3

9.2 (9.3/2016)	Ruling
	•
A player of team 'A' sent the ball over the net into	The referee's decision was correct. The attacker, even
the opponent's space, where a back row player	though he/she hit the ball with a blocking action,
within the front zone jumped and reached higher	completed an attack hit, not a block. A block is an
than the top of the net to block. An attacker of 'A'	action to intercept the ball coming from the
contacted the ball beyond the plane of the net to hit	opponent's side of the court, not coming from his
the ball with two hands in a blocking action. Both	own setter.
players touched the ball at the same time. The 1 st	Since the initial contact of the ball by the attacker
referee signalled a double fault.	was in the opponent's space, the attack was illegal.
Was the referee's decision correct?	The back row player completed the block by the
	contact with the ball higher than the top of the net
	committing a fault
	Since both players committed a fault at the same
	time, the rally ended with a double fault.
	Under this complicated situation at the top of the
	net, the 1 st referee must observe the play very
	carefully. If the attacker from 'A' touched the ball
	first, he should be charged with the only fault. If the
	back row player touched the ball first, he/she should
	be charged with the only fault.
	Rules 13.3.1, 14.1.1, 14.6.2

<u>9.</u> 3 (9.9/2016)	Ruling
Team "A" requested a substitution. The substitute	The situation is complex. Although the substitute
player just entered into the substitution zone ready	player entered into the substitution zone at the very
to play with numbered card, when the 1 st referee was	last moment, the request was still in correct time,
about to give the signal for the next service of team	before the whistle for the next service. Based on this
"B". Neither the scorer, nor the 1 st referee realized	the team made no fault, and cannot be sanctioned.
that the substitute player was already close to the	The 1 st referee is obliged to check before his/her
sideline. The 2 nd referee, waving her hands, sent back	authorization for next service, if the teams want to
the player to the team bench. The 1 st referee whistled	request any game interruption.
for the service and the rally continued.	She was not attentive enough in this, missing this
Was this situation handled correctly?	duty. The scorer was also not attentive enough,
	missing the entering player and not pushing the
	buzzer to acknowledge the substitution request,
	which was correct.



The 2 nd referee has the right to whistle at a
substitution, when there is no buzzer sound or the
scorer is inattentive.
With a better collaboration by the 1 st referee or a
more definite attitude by the 2 nd referee such
situations can be avoided.

<u>9.4</u> (9.11/2016)	Ruling
The coach of team 'A' attempted to request a	This is not a correct ruling by the 1 st referee. His first
substitution late in the set. The substitute player was	action to reject the substitution for the delay and to
late arriving in the substitution zone. The scorer	give a delay warning was correct.
pressed the buzzer and the game stopped although	However, an improper request occurred with the
the 1 st referee had already whistled for service. The	second substitution request by team 'A'. This reques
1 st referee cancelled the rally, refused to allow the	for a substitution must be rejected and the imprope
substitution and issued a delay warning	request should be recorded in the score sheet.
Team 'B' then called a time-out followed by a	
substitution. Team 'A' followed this with a	Rules 15.3.1, 15.3.2, 15.10.3, 15.11.1.3
substitution request which this time was granted. Is	16.1.1,16.1.2, 25.2.2.6
this a correct ruling by the 1 st referee?	
9.5 (9.15/2016)	Ruling
When the middle blocker of team 'B' rotated to	The process applied by the 1 st referee was no
serve, his coach substituted him by a service	correct. This is a typical case of an illegal Liber
specialist. After losing the service, the service	replacement.
specialist was replaced by the Libero.	Team B should have been penalized with a point and
When the Libero had to rotate to the front row, the	service to the opponents for an illegal Liber
middle blocker raced onto the court to replace him.	replacement, and the loss of additional points should
After two rallies, team 'A' realized that the	be confirmed with any evidence including the Libero
replacement was not legal because the middle	control sheet (R-6). If the points gained during the
blocker had not been substituted back for the service	illegal situation were able to be identified, the
specialist. Team 'A' protested the situation.	should be deducted from the points of the team B. I
•	not, no additional points should be deducted. To ge
The 1 st referee allowed team 'B' to substitute the	the middle blocker legally back into the match, tean
middle blocker into the match for the service	'B' should have requested a regular substitution fo
specialist.	the service specialist.
Was this the correct ruling?	Rules 19.3.2.1, 23.2.3

<u>9.6</u> (9.20/2016) VIDEO	Ruling	
A Libero played the ball within the front zone with an	A Libero may make an overhand action in the front	
overhand finger action. The direction of the ball took	zone. A Libero may direct the ball to the opponent by	
it to a point directly above the net where it was hit by	an overhand action. It is a fault, however, for the	
his/her attacker and almost at the same time by the	attacker to complete an attack hit from an overhand	
opponent blocker.	finger pass if the Libero makes the overhand finger	
What should the referees consider in their decision?	action from the front zone and at the moment of the	
	attack hit the ball was entirely higher than the top of	
	the net. The attack hit becomes complete when the	
	ball completely crosses the plane of the net or	
	contacts the block.	
	In this situation there are 3 options:	
	• attacker hits the ball first: attacker completed an	
	attack within the above condition. Opponent team	
	(Blocker's team)serves next.	
	• attacker and blocker hit the ball simultaneously:	
	since the hit was made above the net, i.e. where	



Rule 19.3.1.4

<u>9.7</u> (9.21/2016)	Ruling
The coach of 'B' requested a time-out. The 2 nd referee	Team 'B' had a good reason to protest.
whistled for it.	In instances in which the referees have had a genuine
The 1 st referee did not hear the 2 nd referee's whistle	misunderstanding, the team should not be penalized.
and he authorized the service by 'A'.	Thus the first delay warning was not justified. The 2 nd
The 2 nd referee whistled again to allow the requested	referee would have to clarify immediately the
time-out. Amidst some confusion, the 1 st referee	situation with the 1 st referee. In this way they could
awarded a delay warning to 'B'.	avoid later an unfounded sanction and the complaint
Later in the same set, a server of 'B' was sanctioned	by team 'B'.
for delaying the game. This second delay sanction for	
'B' in the same match resulted in a delay penalty and	Rule 5.1.2.1
gave 'A' a point. This was point 24 and took team 'A'	
to match point which they subsequently won.	
Team 'B' vehemently protested against the delay	
sanctions.	
Were they justified in their protest?	

<u>9.8</u> (9.22/2016)	Ruling
During the second set, the scoreboard which could be	The initial error was that of the scorer.
seen by the spectators was not correct.	
Immediately, the emotional coach of 'A' challenged	The second one was that of the scoreboard operator.
the scorer, the referee, and the Control Committee.	The third one was that of the assistant scorer for not
He was supported by his Head of Delegation who	checking with the official scorer to be certain that
appeared at the Control Committee table from the	they were each in agreement.
spectator seats reserved for Heads of Delegation.	The 1 st referred with his 2 nd referred should have been
The 1 st referee whistled the game captain of 'A' and explained that he/she was sanctioning the coach with	The 1 st referee, via his 2 nd referee, should have been certain that the penalty was recorded on the score
a penalty for rude conduct. Although the game	sheet.
captain had to communicate this to his coach, he did	The game captain should have communicated the
not do so. Furthermore, in the resulting confusion,	misconduct to his coach. When he did not do this, he
the 2 nd referee missed the sanctioning of the coach	should have been sanctioned.
and the penalty for the rude conduct was not	
recorded on the score sheet.	The Control Committee was incorrect in allowing the
The score was corrected and the game continued	Head of Delegation to approach the Control
without any mention of an incident recorded on the	Committee's table. The Game Jury President should
score sheet.	have stopped the match and after a consultation with
How should this incident have been handled?	the 2 nd referee and the scorer or e-scorer, if used, he
	should decide upon the continuation of the match.
	Rules 21, 25.2.2.1, 25.2.2.6, 25.2.2.7, 26.2.2.5



9.9 (9.26/2016)	Ruling
The player #1 was ready to serve. His game captain	Common sense must prevail in resolving this case.
requested confirmation of the correct server. The	The initial error was that of the coach, when
scorer gave the information that player #6 should be	he submitted his incorrect line-up. This was
the server. The game captain doubted this	compounded by the inattention of the 2 nd referee
information and insisted again that player #1 should	and the scorer.
be the server. He was still not satisfied and while	Therefore, the team should not be penalized for the
attempting to approach him, the 1 st referee whistled	incorrect server, and player #1 should be allowed to
for service. Amidst confusion, the team was penalized	serve.
for not serving within the allowed 8 seconds.	On the other hand, the original error of the coach
In the score sheet it was found that the coach of the	caused a delay of the game, thus a delay sanction
team had submitted an incorrect line-up, which had	must be applied.
player #6 in two positions. It should have been #6 and	Furthermore, immediately after discovering and
#1. Number #1 should have been serving as the game	clarifying the situation, the 2 nd referee must request a
captain had surmised. What is the correct ruling by	new line-up sheet from the coach and the score sheet
the 1 st referee?	should be corrected
9.10 (9.27/2016) VIDEO A player of team "B" attacked the ball after the 1 st referee blew his whistle to finish the rally. Because of the hard attack, the ball hit the head of a player of team "A", who was celebrating the point gained by his team. This action provoked the reaction of all teammates of the team "A" player, who crossed under the net to the opponent court trying to lash out at the player #9 of team "B" for his bad behaviour. A great confusion happened involving all persons involved in the game, including top authorities, in order to control the turbulent situation. When calm returned, the 1 st referee directed player #19 of the team "A" to the referee chair and disqualified him for having beaten an opponent. (1 st referee saw this action during the tumultuous situation). Then, the 1 st referee chair and sanctioned him with a Penalty, due to his action of hitting the ball after the whistle. These were the only sanctions. How can the referee manage this action, when the complete team is involved in a kind of "attempted aggression"?	Ruling The 1 st referee applied correctly the sanction rule and the sequence of sanctions when two opponents had unsportsmanlike behaviour. It is obvious that the player who committed the physical attack against the opponent should be immediately disqualified. However the behaviour of the spiker hitting the ball towards the opponent after the whistle of the 1 st referee should be considered as rude conduct. In such situations the heavier sanction should be issued first, then the other one. Should both sanctions be equal in weight, the serving team is punished first. Rule 21.2.1, 21.2.3



CHAPTER 10 – USING TABLET CASES

10.1 Three substitute players entered the substitution zone. After the request was recognized and acknowledged by the scorer, and the horn sounded, the coach decided to make only two substitutions. What is the procedure for the 2 nd referee?	Ruling This is legal as long as this does not cause a delay. Therefore the 2 nd referee simply carries out a double substitution. However, the scorer must pay attention to which combination of players actually occurs and must not press "accept all" in this instance. Rules 15.10.2, 15.10.3a, 15.10.4, 16.1
 10.2 Data for two substitutions was sent by the coach. One substitute player entered the substitution zone while another one was just leaving the warm-up area to try to enter the substitution zone. How many substitutions should be allowed under the current rules? 	Ruling The moment of the request is the entrance of the substitute player(s) into the substitution zone. In this case the 2 nd referee should grant only the one for the player who actually entered the substitution zone. The second action should be rejected as not a real request. In such a situation the 2 nd referee has the right to wave away the player trying to enter the substitution in order to prevent an improper request. With such action the 2 nd referee understood very well what is the "art of refereeing". Since the result of the next rally may cause the coach to change his mind, the data for the disallowed substitution will be deleted. Should he wish to make a new request for substitution involving this player, he would need to send the data again. In this case the scorer should only accept the one substitution on the e-score computer, and not press "accept all". Rules 15.10.3a, 15.10.3b, 15.11.13
<u>10.3</u> A substitution was "requested" by a team, by transmitting the data by Tablet, then sending the	Ruling The substitution was not legal and therefore not allowed. As the first request for substitution was

A substitution was requested by a team, by	The substitution was not legal and therefore not
transmitting the data by Tablet, then sending the	allowed. As the first request for substitution was
player into the substitution zone. Because the player	rejected, the team was not authorized to request a
was not ready to play (wrong paddle/ no paddle/	second consecutive substitution in the same
track suit, etc.), his team was sanctioned with a delay	interruption. At least one rally must be completed
warning and the substitution was rejected. As soon as	before there can be another request for substitution
the delay sanction was applied, the team again	by the same team. However, a penalty awarded
requested the substitution. Was it allowed to make	against either team at this moment counts as a
this second request during the same interruption?	completed rally.
	Rule 15.3.2



10.4 Using the Tablet, the substitution information had been sent by the team; the substitute player had entered the substitution zone, the scorer had sounded the horn – but the player had the "wrong" numbered paddle. He fumbled to get the correct one. The 1^{st} referee awarded a delay sanction, but allowed the substitution. Is this the correct response by the 1^{st} referee?	Ruling The action by the 1 st referee in allowing the substitution was not correct. The whole concept of using a tablet is to facilitate a quick substitution process. Substitution must not, therefore, create a delay. Because the player returned from the substitution zone to collect a different paddle, this created a delay. Thus, the request for substitution by the team must be rejected, the sent information must be deleted and a delay sanction must be awarded. Rules 15.10.3a, 16.1.1, 16.2
10.5 Using the Tablet, the coach transmits data for a substitution but the substitute player steps into the substitution zone just as the whistle sounds for service, should the 2 nd referee permit the substitution?	Ruling Generally this situation is a typical case of an improper request : reject and allow the game to continue, if the game has not been stopped and it was the first improper request for this team. The e-score requires the scorer to press the "start rally" button immediately the 1 st referee whistles for service to prevent requests for substitution and time out. However, if the game has been stopped due to this request (e.g. the scorer has omitted to press start rally and sounds the horn, the player on court goes to the substitution zone or the teams wait for the referee's decision, etc.) it should be considered as delay. The substitution should not be granted, and a warning or penalty for delay will result. The scorer has a responsibility not to sound the horn if the 1st referee has blown the whistle. The same procedure should be followed if it was a repeated improper request by this team - this is considered as delay.
	Rules 15.10.3a, 16.2
	Nules 13.10.38, 10.2
10.6A player became injured and had to be substitutedexceptionally. During the same game interruption,the team transmitted data and sent in a player to thesubstitution zone - i.e. they requested an additionalsubstitution during the interruption. The 2^{nd} refereeaccepted the request.Was the 2^{nd} referee's decision correct to accept therequest?	Ruling Yes, the decision was correct. The first player had to be substituted by an exceptional substitution due to injury. The team still had the right to REQUEST a substitution in the same interruption. Rule 15.7
10.7	Duling
<u>10.7</u> A player listed on the line-up transmitted by the team was injured before the start of the match. Can he be substituted before the match?	Ruling Yes – but it should be shown formally by substitution signal (coach and 2 nd referee so that everyone understands the situation) and must be recorded on



10.8 A player arrived in the substitution zone – but no data had been transmitted. How is this handled?	Ruling As there is no data, this situation is a typical case of an improper request : reject and allow the game to continue.
	The scorer has nothing to accept – so there can be no
	buzzer.



APPENDIX

Here the cases are listed with the numbers of the concerning rules. The case numbers are hyperlinked with the cases, and from the cases you can come back to this appendix.

Case number	Rule (1)	Rule (2)	Rule (3)	Rule (4)	Rule (5)	Rule (6)	Rule (7)
WEARING FOR	BIDDEN OBJI	ECTS					
<u>1.01</u>	4.5.1	4.5.3					
<u>1.02</u>	4.5.1						
CAPTAIN					·		
<u>1.03</u>	5.1.2	20.1	20.2	21.2	21.3.1		
<u>1.04</u>	5.1.2.2						
<u>1.05</u>	5.1.2.1	20.2.1					
<u>1.06</u>	5.1.2.1	23.2.4					
COACH	·				-		
<u>1.07</u>							
<u>1.08</u>	5.1.2	5.2.3.4	21.1	21.2	21.3		
<u>1.09</u>	5.2.1	5.2.3.3	5.3.1				
<u>1.10</u>	5.2.3.4						
<u>1.11</u>							
THE UNIFORM	·				-		
<u>1.12</u>	4.3.3						
POSITION AND	ROTATIONA	L FAULTS	-	·	·		
<u>2.01</u>	7.4	7.4.2	7.4.3				
<u>2.02</u>	7.4.3	7.5					
<u>2.03</u>	1.3.3	7.4					
<u>2.04</u>							
<u>2.05</u>	7.3.1	7.5	12.3	12.4.3			
<u>2.06</u>	7.7.1						
PLAYING THE B	ALL				-		
<u>3.01</u>	10.1.2	10.1.2.2					
<u>3.02</u>	9.2.1	9.2.2	9.3.3	9.3.4			
<u>3.03</u>	9.2.3.2	14.2					
<u>3.04</u>	9.2.2						
<u>3.05</u>	9	9.1.3	10.1.2				
<u>3.06</u>	9	9.1.3					
<u>3.07</u>							
<u>3.08</u>	10.1.2						
<u>3.09</u>	8.4.1	8.4.2	9.1	10.1.2	10.1.2.1	10.1.2.2	
<u>3.10</u>	9						
<u>3.11</u>	10.1.2.2						



PENETRATION U	NDER THE N	ET				
3.12	11.2.1	11.2.2.1	11.2.4			
3.13	11.2.1					
3.14	11.2.2					
PLAYER AT OR CO	1	THE NET	1			
<u>3.15</u>	9.1.2.2	9.1.2.3				
3.16	11.3.1	11.4.4				
3.17	11.3.1	11.4.4				
<u>3.18</u>	11.3.1	11.4.4				
<u>3.19</u>	11.3.1	11.4.4				
<u>3.20</u>	11.3.1	11.4.4				
<u>3.21</u>	11.3.1	11.3.2	11.4.4			
<u>3.22</u>	11.3.1	11.4.4				
<u>3.23</u>	11.3.1	11.4.4				
<u>3.24</u>	11.3.1	11.4.4				
<u>3.25</u>	11.3.1	11.4.4				
<u>3.26</u>	11.3.1	20.2.1				
SERVICE	·				·	
<u>3.27</u>	7.71	12.2.1	12.7.1	25.2.2.2		
<u>3.28</u>	12.4.4					
<u>3.29</u>	12.4.2					
<u>3.30</u>	8.4.3	23.3.2.3.i	24.3.2.8	27.2.1.3		
<u>3.31</u>	12.6.2.1					
<u>3.32</u>	12.6.2.1					
ATTACK HIT						
<u>3.33</u>	13.1.3					
<u>3.34</u>	13.1.1	13.1.3	13.2.2	13.3.3		
<u>3.35</u>	13.1.1	14.3				
<u>3.36</u>	9.1	13.1.3	13.2.2	13.3.3		
<u>3.37</u>	13.3.4	19.3.1.3				
BLOCK						
<u>3.38</u>	14.1.1	14.1.3	14.6.2			
<u>3.39</u>	14.1.1	14.3				
<u>3.40</u>	14.1.1					
<u>3.41</u>	11.2.1					
<u>3.42</u>	11.1.2	14.1.1	14.2	14.3		
<u>3.43</u>						
<u>3.44</u>	9.1	14.2	14.4.1			
<u>3.45</u>	13.3.1	13.3.3	14.1.1	14.6.1	14.6.2	
<u>3.46</u>	9.3.1	14.1.1				
<u>3.47</u>	9.1	14.1.1	14.4.1			
<u>3.48</u>	9.1	14.1.1	14.4.1			
<u>3.49</u>	19.3.1.3					



SUBSTITUTIONS							
<u>4.01</u>	15.10.2	15.10.3a	15.10.4	16.1			
<u>4.02</u>	15.10.3a	15.10.3b	15.11.1.3				
4.03	15.3.2						
4.04	15.10.3a	16.1.1	16.2				
4.05	15.10.3a	15.11.1.1	15.11.3	16.2			
<u>4.06</u>	16.1.1	16.2					
<u>4.07</u>	15.7						
<u>4.08</u>	15.7	15.8					
<u>4.09</u>	7.3.2	7.3.4					
<u>4.10</u>	15.9.2						
<u>4.11</u>	15.5	15.6	15.11	16.1			
<u>4.12</u>	15.6	16.1.3					
<u>4.13</u>							
<u>4.14</u>	16.1.1	23.2.3					
<u>4.15</u>	7.3.5.2	7.3.5.3					
<u>4.16</u>	15.10.3a	15.10.3c	16.1.1				
4.17	15.11.2	16.1.1					
4.18	15.10.3a	15.10.3c					
<u>4.19</u>	4.1.3	4.2.2	5.1.1	5.2.2	7.3.5.4	15.9.2	
<u>4.20</u>	15.2.2						
<u>4.21</u>	7.3.5.2						
<u>4.22</u>	6.1.3	15	15.2.1	15.11.1.3			
то/тто							
<u>4.23</u>	15.4.1						
4.24	15.4.2						
IMPROPER REQU	JEST						
<u>4.25</u>	15.3.1	15.3.2	15.10.3a	15.11.1.3	25.2.2.6		
<u>4.26</u>	15.11.1.4	16.1.5	25.2.2.6				
<u>4.27</u>	15.5	16.1					
INJURIES							
<u>4.28</u>	4.4	15.5	15.10.2	15.10.3a	17.1.1		
<u>4.29</u>	15.7	17.1.2					
<u>4.30</u>	15.11.1.3						
<u>4.31</u>	4.1.3	5.1	5.2.1	5.2.2	19.4.2.5	25.2.2.7	
<u>4.32</u>	15.11.1.3						
<u>4.33</u>	15.10.1	17.1.1					
DELAYS TO THE C	1						
<u>4.34</u>	6.4.1	16.1					
<u>4.35</u>	16.1.2	16.1.5					
<u>4.36</u>	1.5	5.1.2.2	6.4.1	16.2			
<u>4.37</u>	4.2	6.4.1	6.4.2	18.1			
EXTERNAL INTER	1						
<u>4.38</u>	17.2	17.3					
<u>4.39</u>	17.2						



5.01	19.3.2.4	19.3.2.8	24.3.1				
5.02	6.4.3	15.7	15.8				_
5.03	15.5	15.7	17				
5.04	6.4.3	19.1.1	19.3.2	19.3.2.8	19.4		_
<u>5.04</u>	15.3.2	19.3.2	19.3.2	15.5.2.8	15.4		_
		19.3.2	19.5.2.0				
<u>5.06</u>	19.3.2.5	10.2.2.0	22.2.2				_
5.07	19.3.2.1	19.3.2.9	23.2.3	10.10			
<u>5.08</u>	19.1.3	19.3.2.2	19.3.2.8	19.4.2			
<u>5.09</u>	5.2.3.4						
<u>5.10</u>	19.3.2.1	19.3.2.2					
<u>5.11</u>	15.9	19.3.1.1	26.2.2.1	26.2.2.2			
<u>5.12</u>	5	19.2	19.3.2.8	19.4.2.5			
<u>5.13</u>	19.3.2.9	23.2.3					
<u>5.14</u>	19.3.2.1						
<u>5.15</u>	19.3.2.1	19.3.2.8					
5.16	19.3.2.8	Diag. 1					
5.17	19.3.2.1	Ŭ					
5.18	19.3.2.2	19.3.2.8					-
5.19	19.1.2	10101210					
5.20	19.2						
<u>5.20</u>	14.1.1	14.1.2	14.1.3				_
<u>5.22</u>	6.1.3	19.3.2.1	19.3.2				_
5.23	19.3.2.8	19.4.2.1	19.4.2.4	10.0			
<u>5.24</u>	15.5.1	15.7	16.1.3	19.2			
<u>5.25</u>	19.4.2.1	19.4.2.2					
CONDUCT							
<u>6.01</u>	21.1	21.2					
<u>6.02</u>	21.2.1	21.3					
<u>6.03</u>	5.2	21.1	21.2	21.3			
<u>6.04</u>	21.5						
<u>6.05</u>	21.2	21.2.1	21.3				
6.06	21.1	21.2	21.3				
6.07	21						
6.08							
6.09	6.4.3	15.8					_
REFEREES RESPO			I	I	1		1
<u>7.01</u>	23.3.2.2						
7.02	4.2.1	4.2.3	24.2.4	24.2.5			-
<u>7.02</u> 7.03	25.2.2	7.2.5	27.2.7	27.2.3			_
		E 1 2 2	22.2.4				_
7.04	5.1.2.1	5.1.3.2	23.2.4				
7.05		45.5 4		46.4	46.5		
<u>7.06</u>	15.1	15.2.1	15.11	16.1	16.2	24.2.6	24.2.7
<u>7.07</u>	15.4.4						
<u>7.08</u>	5.2.3.4	5.3.1					
<u>7.09</u>	5.1.2						
7.10	24.7	Guidelines	and Instructions				



SPECIAL CASES							
<u>8.01</u>							
<u>8.02</u>	17.2						
<u>8.03</u>	17.3.2.2						
<u>8.04</u>	9.1.3						
<u>8.05</u>							
EXTENDED CASES							
<u>9.01</u>	14.3						
<u>9.02</u>	13.3.1	14.1.1	14.6.2				
<u>9.03</u>							
<u>9.04</u>	15.3.1	15.3.2	15.10.3	15.11.1.3	16.1.1	16.1.2	25.2.2.6
<u>9.05</u>	19.3.2.1	23.2.3					
<u>9.06</u>	19.3.1.4						
<u>9.07</u>	5.1.2.1						
<u>9.08</u>	25.2.2.1	26.2.2.5	25.2.2.6	21	25.2.2.7		
<u>9.09</u>							
<u>9.10</u>	21.2.1	21.2.3					

USING TABLET CAS	USING TABLET CASES							
<u>10.1</u>	15.10.2	15.10.3a	15.10.4	16.1				
<u>10.2</u>	15.10.3a	15.10.3b	15.11.1.3					
<u>10.3</u>	15.3.2							
<u>10.4</u>	15.10.3a	16.1.1	16.2					
<u>10.5</u>	15.10.3a	16.2						
<u>10.6</u>	15.7							
<u>10.7</u>	7.3.2	7.3.4						
<u>10.8</u>								





