

# This Week in Volleyball



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The Ohio High School Athletic Association

- **TOURNAMENT TIME IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!**

The deadline for entering or withdrawing from the OHSAA Volleyball Tournament is October 3. This registration or withdrawal is conducted electronically on *myohsaa*, the OHSAA's data management system. The statewide tournament draw shall be conducted on Sunday, October 9 at 2:00 PM for all tournament sites in all divisions.

- **REMINDER ABOUT THE PUPIL ACTIVITY/COACHING PERMIT AND THE ENTRY FORM FOR THE VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT**

When your principal or athletic administrator fills out the OHSAA Tournament Entry Form for volleyball, he or she is required to include the name(s) of all persons coaching your school during its participation in the OHSAA volleyball tournament. Along with the name(s), your administrator is also required to list the State I.D. Number/License Number for each volleyball coach, paid or volunteer, who will be involved in coaching your team this season. Please note this is a clarification from original Sports Regulation 3. We are requesting the State I.D. Number/License Number and **NOT** the PAP Permit Number (listed as Form No. on the Pupil Activity Supervisor Permit). As additional points of information, the License Number that appears on the Pupil Activity Supervisor Permit is the same as the State I.D. Number which appears on the Ohio Department of Education website when viewing a coach's credentials. Also, this number usually begins with two letters. Another friendly reminder, if you have not taken care of this obligation, you will not be permitted to coach in the OHSAA tournament. Please see your administrator right away if you have not obtained a permit to coach in Ohio

- **UNIFORM PROBLEMS – THEY JUST NEVER SEEM TO GO AWAY!**

The libero uniform continues to create buzz among our officials and coaches alike. Here is some guidance from Director of Development for Volleyball Officiating, Diane Plas. The rule reads: ART. 2 . . . The libero shall wear a uniform top that is ***immediately recognized from all angles as being in clear contrast to and distinct from the other members of the team.*** The primary color of the libero's uniform top must be different from any color that appears on more than 25 percent of the body of teammates' uniform tops. In determining the body of the uniforms, the sleeves and collar should be ignored. The libero uniform shall have a legal number. The style and trim of the libero's uniform top may differ from teammates' uniforms, but the shorts must be like-colored to teammates.

The issue we are having is even when the uniform meets the 25% rule, it doesn't necessarily meet the "immediately recognized from all angles as being in clear contrast to and distinct" portion of the rule. This occurs most often when the uniforms are the exact opposites of each other and:

1. the sleeves are long and a different color than the body of the shirt. (the sleeves are NOT counted in the 25%)
2. there is a side panel that is the same color as the sleeves. (this could be pretty large as long as the total isn't more than 25%)

Either of the above scenarios can create a problem when the regular uniformed player stands square to the referee, and the libero stands perpendicular. This puts a lot of the same color by each player "together" in the picture, thus the libero is not immediately recognized from all angles. We advise that if this problem has been called to your attention by a volleyball official, it is time to consider another uniform for the libero.

- **ELECTRONIC DEVICES – SOME COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

For some reason, the use of cell phones has become a topic of discussion this year. Rule 12-2-8 g is the only rule restricting the use of electronic devices once a match has begun. Thus it is considered unsporting conduct for bench personnel to be involved in ***g. Using electronic equipment, excluding computers (i.e., television monitoring/replay equipment, headsets, etc.), for coaching purposes during the set or any intermission;*** It is also impermissible to use cell phones and/or other electronic devices such as music players while participating in warm-ups. We are not fans of creating rules as we go along in a season. However, as far as bench personnel are concerned, as long as cell phone calls coming in are not distracting to officials or players on the court, ***we do not see any rules support for banning them from the bench.*** We also suspect that most coaches would want their players and assistants paying attention to the match beyond and not talking on the phone, texting or taking pictures of the scoreboard.