

ONLINE RULES MEETINGS HAVE CLOSED

The complimentary online meetings have now closed. In order to access the make-up meeting, which will be available only until September 13, please call Renee Moore at 614-267-2502 Ext #106 to pay the \$50.00 fee (VISA and MC only) and receive the link for this special make-up meeting.

PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL INSTRUCTION

OHSAA Sports Regulations DO permit players to receive INDIVIDUAL instruction during the season of play but only with your approval. We caution coaches about this option, however. It does NOT give the permission for players to participate in workouts (disguised as "instruction") with their club/travel/non-interscholastic teams. Generally, if the individual is paying for instruction it probably meets the regulation. Remember the four player instructional option for the interscholastic coach will not be available for coaches until after the 28 no contact period has expired. More on that provision will be forthcoming as the end of the season draws near.

WHO TO CONTACT?

Questions about VB rules? Coaches should contact Deborah Moore or Diane Plas. Officials should contact their local association interpreter. Questions about OHSAA rules? Coaches should contact Debbie. Eligibility questions? – Please see your principal or AD.

THANKS FOR SUBMITTING QUESTIONS!

Many of the issues represented in this communiqué are submitted to us from our coaches and officials. Both Diane Plas and Debbie Moore greatly appreciate your contacting us, and it is our please to provide you answers directly as well as in this format.

THIS WEEK IN VOLLEYBALL



The Ohio High School Athletic Association

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NFHS VB Rule 4 Preamble and Authorization of Exceptions to the Player Equipment or Uniform Rules

We have chosen to reemphasize this rule again this week as we continue to receive questions and concerns about the rationale and process of this rule. Rather than stipulate to every conceivable request for reasonable accommodation, the two notes below the preamble to Rule 4 stipulate that coaches must verify that all players are legally equipped and attired and that the state association- in this case the OHSAA - has the authority to authorize exemptions to NFHS playing rules to provided reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities or special needs as well as students with unique and extenuating circumstances. The accommodations approved shall not fundamentally alter the sport, heighten risk to the athlete or others or place opponents at a disadvantage.

If players need to wear an item or use equipment that is not specifically permitted by rule, a **request for authorization must come to the OHSAA from a school or athletic administrator** on behalf of the player. Our office will make every attempt to provide that authorization as quickly as possible in a letter so that the coach can provide the authorization to the R1 prior to any match. We will approve these special requests for the duration of the student's eligibility in the sport to avoid your having to request the same each year.

Specific requests that we have entertained to date – and we have provided 25 of these thus far in 2013 - include: head wear for religious purposes; head gear that is protective provided it is soft and yielding (we will not approve hard-shell helmets for volleyball); head wear for medical reasons such as a bandanna to cover the scalp; and insulin pumps provided they are padded. **We have in the past approved prosthetic limbs, which is another example of a reasonable accommodation, and we will continue to do so.** To help us serve you more efficiently, please try to have these requests to us before your first match. Remember that a hearing aid is not one of the pieces of equipment that requires any authorization. The same is true of corrective eyewear. In addition, please note that the uniform rules are quite liberal concerning what a player may wear. Thus, it is permissible for a player to wear long pants, a skirt or undergarments that completely cover the legs and arms provided they are a solid color and similar to the predominant color of the uniform bottom or top under which the garments are visible.

2013-14 End-of-Set Protocol

Please keep in mind that the only change in this protocol is that the teams no longer report to the end lines. The rest of the protocol is the same as in previous years.

5-4-4b & 9-2-3a

Following the first referee's signal for end-of-set, teams are directed to the appropriate court and team benches and no longer report to the end lines...

From the Rules Book

Page 21 & 22

Rule: 5-4-4

ART. 4 . . . Court Protocol:

a. At the end of the timed warm-up period and pre-match ceremonies, the officials shall take their positions on the court. The first referee whistles and directs the starting players to their respective end lines. When all officials are ready, the first referee whistles and signals the players onto the playing court. Then the second referee checks the lineups for each team.

b. At the end of the set, the first referee shall whistle and signal "end-of-set." The first referee then whistles and directs the teams to change courts or move to the appropriate team benches. The timer begins timing the three-minute interval between sets with the first referee's second whistle directing teams to their team benches.

c. Following non-deciding sets, after the first referee has confirmed the score of the set, he/she whistles and signals the teams to change courts. The team members proceed immediately to their new team benches. **The players proceed counter clockwise along the sideline outside the standards, then directly to their new team benches.**

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Rule: 9-2-3b

ART. 3 . . . After each set,

a. When directed to do so by the first referee, the players proceed immediately to change courts or to their respective team benches.

b. When directed by the first referee to change courts, the teams shall proceed immediately to their new team benches and the players shall proceed counterclockwise along the sideline past the standard to their new team benches.