

Volleyball Tournaments Entry Forms

Tournament entry forms for volleyball have been converted to online forms which must be accessed and completed through the "Tournament Entry" link located in the left column of your **myOHSAA** account. Information on the tournament entry forms marked with red asterisks (*) is required. Once the tournament entry form has been submitted, click the "View" link and print the form. The form will need to be forwarded to your tournament manager per their instructions. Coaches, please be sure that your athletic administrator has access this update which has been sent directly to each of them by the OHSAA office.

Line Judge Reminders

- Importance of line judges to the match referees in today's fast pace and powerful play cannot be overemphasized
- Line judges are many times not registered referees and may be parents, other adults or students.
- Burden of quality officiating in the line judge position rests with the schools
- Advanced and proper training of the line judges is paramount to the quality of the officiated match

THIS WEEK IN VOLLEYBALL



The Ohio High School Athletic Association

Volume 3

Issue 8

September 24, 2012

Accommodating Spectators who have disabilities

The OHSAA occasionally receives questions about how best to accommodate spectators who have various disabilities that might not permit them to view a contest from the bleachers or the typical spectator seating area. Of particular concern is providing appropriate places for viewing contests for individuals who use wheelchairs. Every attempt should be made to provide these individuals with a safe place where they can view the contest without undue burden. It is imperative, however, that no individual, whether he or she uses a wheelchair or not, be permitted to stand in the minimum playable area, which is comprised of at least six feet and preferably 10 feet of unobstructed space outside the boundary lines. Schools are advised to consider the best places to locate persons who use wheelchairs so that they can enjoy the competition and not place anyone, including themselves, at risk. Officials, whenever a problem is noted, should seek the assistance of the school or athletic administrator or the site manager.

Question from a Coach

A coach asked the following question: We had a disagreement about how to play a ball that hits a down basketball backboard. They are our main court rims and cannot be put up. I am just looking for a rule clarification. Maybe I am wrong but I've never seen it called the way the official called in last night. I asked him how to call the following situation: "On a serve receive, the serve is coming in very fast, a girl barely makes contact so she just alters the direction a little but doesn't slow down the speed of the ball. The new direction takes it to the bottom of the backboard and it pops up in the air back to the middle of the court. Is the ball playable or is it dead because it hit the backboard?"

Answer from our DoD, Diane Plas: **If a live ball contacts a Vertical Backboard(s) and/or its supports, the ball is dead** and there is a judgment to make. The ball is either out of bounds or a replay depending on the answers to the following questions. The key to the answer is what would have happened to the ball if it had not contacted the vertical board. Assuming the board is in play over a playable area...**Would it have remained in play? Was there a player there able to make a legitimate play on the ball?** This would have to occur on contact #1 or #2. A player contact that is contact #3 which then hits any overhead obstruction is immediately out of bounds. If the answers to the above two questions is yes, the play should be whistled dead and a replay would be the correct next action. The play you describe sounds like the ball would have continued out of bounds at a rapid pace if the backboard had not been there. Without seeing the play I cannot 100% rule on the correct interpretation. But by the way you describe this play, I believe this should be dead ball and out of bounds.

Accommodations for Students

NFHS rules permit the OHSAA to authorize exceptions to playing rules to authorize reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities or special needs. Thus far this year, our office has approved students who need to use certain medical appliance such as cochlear implants and insulin pumps as well as head coverings for religious and medical reasons. Such requests come to us from a school or athletic administrator and our assistant, Renee Moore, will process these with a letter authorizing modification which should then be shown to the R1 prior to each match. We will not issue letters of authorization for any brace, guard or cast which deviates from rules 4-1-1, 2 or 3.

A Word on Unsporting Conduct

As we approach the halfway point of the season, we have had just one coach ejection. However, we do receive reports of unsporting conduct which rises to the level that officials feel the need to issue warning or penalty cards. Coaches, please keep in mind that your behavior reflects on your school and on yourself, and we respectfully ask you to consider that you are a role model for the students with whom you are working. Thanks for your efforts!