



CASEBOOK

FROM MEMBERS

FOR MEMBERS

(OFFICIATE STRONG!)

SITUATION ONE: Submitted by Travis Vake

(It's a game of angles.)

Ball lands opposite of the first referee near the intersection of the sideline and end line. The sideline judge (L2) signals the ball in, the end line judge (L1) signals the ball out. Should I signal a replay?

Mechanics and Responsibilities:

Note: The L1 is the line judge on the side of the first referee, the L2 is the line judge on the side of the second referee.

The L2 is responsible for the sideline. The L1 is responsible for the end line. It is impossible for the L2 (Straight-line view) to know if the ball is beyond the end line, when ball touches just outside the end line by inches but in line with the sideline. Therefore the L2 signal is in. However, in this play situation the actual call belongs to the L1, who signaled the ball was out, beyond the end line. (Right Angle View.)

Comment: The call is given to the L1 unless the R1 overrules. The R2 should be ready to give a quick explanation to the effected coach. Note: This is a good topic to discuss (the possibility of conflicting calls and how it will be handline) in the line judge review meeting.

SITUATION TWO: Submitted by Steve Tracy

#9 had subbed in the #2 position in the early in the set. Toward the end of the set, #9 subbed in a different position because she assumed it was OK to do so.

Ruling: Incorrect Procedure

Penalty: Detected prior to R1's whistle/signal to serve- Unnecessary delay. (Administrative Yellow Card)

Detected after R1's whistle/signal for serve – Illegal Alignment.

Mechanics and Responsibilities:

It is the responsibility of the R2 to brief the scorer's table on their responsibilities and how the officiating team will work together as one. We should not assume we have experienced scorekeepers and therefore can eliminate the need to review. Ultimately it is the team's coach responsibility for illegal substitution. Preventive officiating should be used when possible.

Comment: Substitutes may only re-enter into the original serving order position, except for an exceptional substitution procedure.

SITUATION THREE: Submitted by Linda Manick

When a ball travels near the R2 can the player go to hit it back into their court and cross over the center line extended outside of the court?

Answer: Yes

Ruling: A player may cross the extension of the center line outside the court at any time provided she not interfere with play by the opposing team.

While across the centerline extension outside the court, any player may play a ball that has not completely crossed the vertical plane of the net extended.

Mechanics and Responsibilities:

This play can be a difficult angle for the R1 or R2 if the call is on their side of the net. If you need help on the call, quickly look at you partner for a safe signal (official to official signal) or an out of bounds signal.

Comment:

The safe signal from your partner indicates the play is legal, and that the ball did not completely cross the vertical plane of the net extended.

SITUATION FOUR: Submitted Brian Karich (Northeast Range vs LF-BF)

In the fifth set, score 2 to 2. The opposing team coach goes directly to the scorekeeper to question the score of the game. The score, she felt should have been 3 – 2 with their team at the advantage. It was concluded that the official scorekeeper missed entering the point. However, the scored stayed at 2 to 2. It was impossible at this time to find out where the discrepancy was.

Mechanics and Responsibilities:

The R2 supervises the scorer's table. In this situation the coach should not be allowed to discuss directly with the scorekeeper. All communication must go through the R2. The R2 will then take the concern to the official scorekeeper for resolve.

Comment: The timer / visual scoreboard keeper may have prevented this error if working directly with the scorekeeper point by point. It is the responsibility of the R2 to review specific duties of the support staff at the scoring table. (The visiting team did not have a scorebook of their own to serve for additional information to possibly correct the error.)

In this same sequence situation, after putting the teams in proper serving order, and prior to the signal for serving a team representative from one of the teams got off the team bench and again went to discuss with the scorer's table. R2's have the responsibility to manage all activity at the scorer's table as well as the team bench area. This action is unsportsmanlike conduct.

SITUATION FIVE: Submitted by Travis Vake, September 25, 2019 (I-Falls vs Hibbing)

In the first set with **Hibbing leading I-Falls 9-1** the set/match had to be suspended due to a leaking roof during a rainstorm, making the floor unplayable.

Comment: A match may be suspended due to unforeseen circumstances. It may be resumed from the point of suspension. When play is resumed, the score and lineup shall be the same as they were at the moment of suspension. The officiating team should confirm with the scorekeeper the details of the set / match before leaving.

SITUATION SIX: Submitted by Brian Karich, Oct 1, 2019 (Grand Rapids vs Virginia)

In the first set each team had a substitution request during the same dead ball. Virginia substitutes were recognized and permission to exchange by the R2. At the same time the Grand Rapids substitution of **player A for player B** was made on their own, without the recognition and permission of the exchange by the R2.

Effect: Grand Rapids was issued a yellow card warning for unnecessary delay. The players were removed from the court. After an unnecessary delay no substitutions may be requested by that team until the next completed rally.

Comment: The R2 would deny the substitution and inform the scorekeeper to enter into the comment section of the scorebook. The next delay in the same set would be penalized by a red card and point awarded to the opponent.

CALLING CENTERLINE VIOLATIONS

We all know by the high school code a player may touch the floor across the center line with one or both feet/hands provided a part of the foot/feet or hand(s) remains on or above the center line. Contacting the floor across the center line with any other part of the body is illegal.

Center line violations can, at times, be a quick blur with the eyes and mind, especially with fast paced competition this violation may be called too quickly. Your eyes / mind will have a message of a centerline violation in all actuality there was not. How can we improve on getting a good view of this sometimes-difficult call.

Let's get back to the rule of what constitutes a center line violation. When judging a potential center line violation do not be quick to anticipation. Slow the read of the play down (get a great focused look) and make sure that you saw the foot / feet or hand / hands **completely across the centerline**. Ask yourself this question - are you able to see floor space between the foot / hand and the center line? If you

Comment Box:

During pre-game warm-ups it is good time for the R2 to warm-up their eyes and mind. While a team is hitting, through a controlled focus, watch and warm-up for center line violations. Look for the floor space between the foot / hand and centerline. What do you have? You may also use this time for transition movement to the blockers side of the net and watch from the top of the net down to the centerline.

can see identifiable floor space then we have a centerline fault. If you are not able to easily discern floor space, then chances are there is not a centerline violation. Remember, that the foot / hand in the air above the line, does not make it a center line violation. The line must be crossed. Bottom line do not guess a center line violation.

SITUATION SEVEN: Illegal Libero Play

Submitted by Davis Lamppa, August 31, 2021 (Chisholm Team (A) vs E-G Team (B))

Team A serves the ball, and a fault awards the ball and point to team B. Team A libero now rotates to the left front position unnoticed by the Libero Tracker and R2. Team B serves the ball, and a fault awards the ball and point to team A with the libero now rotating to the middle front position.

Realizing that team A's rotation is illegal the R1 goes to the scoring table to confirm that team A does indeed have an illegal libero replacement creating an illegal alignment.

Effect: Team A has the point removed and is put back into proper serving order. Team B is awarded the ball and point for illegal alignment by A. The R1, after assuming the ladder position, signals an awards the ball and point for team B and indicates / signals the fault of illegal alignment by team A.

Comment Box: The R2 would review with the Libero tracker and ensure that the correct replacement player enters for the illegal libero. The R2 would have the scorer remove the point to team A and ensure that team B is awarded the point for illegal alignment. Team A should be put back into the proper serving order.

Note: Mechanics and Responsibilities.

R2 has the responsibility to review duties and responsibilities with the scorer and Libero tracker prior to the match. The libero tracker should have notified the scorer to sound the horn at the time the ball was contacted for the serve indicating that an illegal replacement occurred. R2 has responsibility for viewing the receiving team for illegal alignment.

SITUATION EIGHT: When a rally begins.

Submitted by Steve Tracey, September 3, 2021 (Southridge)

Home team #15 is the correct server and serves the ball. A very long rally ensues, and the home team wins the point. Inadvertently, #18 goes back to serve and, after the beckon whistle, serves the ball, and the home team wins the point. It's important to note currently that #29 is LB for home team.

The scorekeeper indicates "wrong server," the rotational fault is corrected, one point is deducted, and a side out is awarded. As the ball is rolled over to the visiting team, the Libero for the home team enters the LB for the home team. R1 calls the captain and explains that #29 must return because there can be no Libero replacement until after a completed rally - there was no dead ball because of the illegal server - technically, play stops on contact of the ball. The home team coach questions the decision. R1 called R2 over to re-explain the ruling to the home team coach, after which the coach requested and was granted a TO. At the end of the TO, the coach sent the Libero back to the left back position instead of #29. The R1

indicated that the Libero cannot enter, and the coach again protested and received a yellow card for delay of game.

Comment – Here's where there was a bit of miscommunication. When the coach requested a TO, he also asked R2 if he could then replace #29 with the Libero. R2 looked at R1 inquisitively and mouthed the words, "can she stay in." As R1, I thought R2 was asking to confirm it was OK for the T.O. to be granted; to which I nodded and again repeated the T.O. signal.

Comment Box

Correct Action: The R2 should have walked over to the R1 to explain the question. Using the informal signal of the left hand over the heart. Indicating a question or information for the R1.

Correct Action: The libero should have been allowed to enter the game. The libero must sit out for one completed rally. The incorrect service, upon contact of the serve, started and completed the rally.

Definition of Rally: Anytime a ball is awarded, and a point given completes a rally.

Examples:

1. The served ball hits a team player. (Rally completed)
2. The served ball hits goes into the net or out of bounds. (Rally Completed)
3. When the receiving team is illegally aligned – the fault is called on serve contact - play ends. (Rally completed)
4. When the serving team is illegally aligned – the fault is called on serve contact – play ends. (Rally completed)
5. When there is an improper server – the fault is called on serve contact – play ends. (Rally completed)

(Exceptions to above would be the re-serve and replay rules.)