

NCAA Rule Changes 2012-2013
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NCAA Women's Volleyball Rules Committee

The NCAA Playing Rule Oversight Panel (PROP) has approved the following rules submitted by the Women's Volleyball Rules committee. The list below includes all the proposals that were approved and will be implemented into the 2012-2013 Volleyball Rules Book. Complete details and interpretations of the rule changes and other points of emphasis will be covered in the 2012 NCAA/PAVO clinics. All women's collegiate referees should plan to attend.

2012-13 Volleyball Major Rules Change Proposals

(Note: All rule references are from the 2010-2011 Rule Book)

Referee Stand. Rule 1.5.4. The referee stand and platform must be distributed evenly behind the net pole. The ladder must be distributed evenly behind the back of the referee platform. **Rationale:** Some net systems currently have the referee stand and platform inside the net pole with the ladder on one side of the platform. This could create a potentially dangerous situation and uneven playing area for the team on the side of the ladder.

Use of Electronic Aids. Rule 6.1.5. Statistical data may be transmitted to the bench area from any location in the facility. Electronic audio communication or video transmission is prohibited. Electronic devices may be used in the bench areas during the match for statistical purposes. **Rationale:** Technology is changing quickly, and allowing statistical information to be transmitted is a current accepted practice.

Change of Team Areas Between Sets. Rule 9.2.4.4.1. The second referee conducts a new coin toss. The home team calls the coin toss for the deciding set. **Rationale:** The previous rule stated that the first referee had to instruct the second referee to conduct the coin toss. This rule change will align with the current practice.

Substitutions. Rule 11.3.2. Each team is entitled to 15 substitutions per set. Each player is allowed unlimited entries within the team limit. **Rationale:** The survey results showed a vast majority of coaches in favor of increasing the number of substitutions per set. Many programs are being asked to carry more student-athletes on their team roster. This change allows for increased playing opportunities. *Associated Technique. Rule 18.3.6.11. The second referee notifies the appropriate coach(es) when the 12th through 15th team substitutions are made, and the first referee when the 15th substitution is made.*

Hand Signals. Rule 18.1.5. If the fault is whistled by the first referee, he or she indicates the result of the play (point or replay) followed by the nature of the fault. The second referee mimics the first referee's signals. [*Exception:* The second referee does not mimic the signal for net serve. (See Signal 19b, Official's Mechanics. **Rule 18.1.5.2.** If the fault is whistled by the second referee, he or she will indicate the nature of the fault and the player at fault (if necessary). The first referee, if in agreement, will then indicate

the result of the play (point or replay); the second referee mimics that signal. **Rationale:** Indicating which team will serve next facilitates the actions of the scorekeepers, ball crew, media, etc. during the time the ball is out of play. This will add to a more consistent tempo to the match.

The Line Judge. Rule 18.5.1.2. ~~A player or server commits a line violation. The line judges' responsibility for foot fault errors includes players other than the server on the court. If such a player is touching the floor outside the court at the time the ball is contacted for service, the line judge should notify the referees.~~ (See Signal 9b, Official's Mechanics). **Rationale:** The first and second referee should be solely responsible for determining all positional faults. Line judges will continue to provide information to the first and second referee if they notice potential rotational faults.

2012-2013 Rule Clarifications

(Note: All rule references are from the 2010-2011 Rule Book)

Jewelry. Rule 7.2.2. Added *ear gauge (a device use to stretch a piercing beyond it normal limits)* to the list of items that are not permitted regardless of the material composition.

Other Articles. 7.2.4.2. Medical equipment, such as an insulin pump or cochlear implant, is allowed; such equipment may have to be covered or padded.

The First Referee. Rule 18.2.4. Responsibilities During Play. Added the following to the first referee responsibilities: 18.2.4.6-Determine illegal attacks or blocks when a fault has occurred.

Artificial Noisemakers and Bands. Rule 18.2.6.2. Added language to instruct the public address announcer to cease when the first referee prepares to authorize the service.

Flags. Rule 18.5.3.3. Clarified the line judge flag dimensions to meet the current industry standards.

Event Management. Bullet 5. Allows for a three or four-ball rotation system.

Rationale: New ball crew members may need the extra ball to be productive and keep the match flowing at a steady pace.