



March 18, 2026

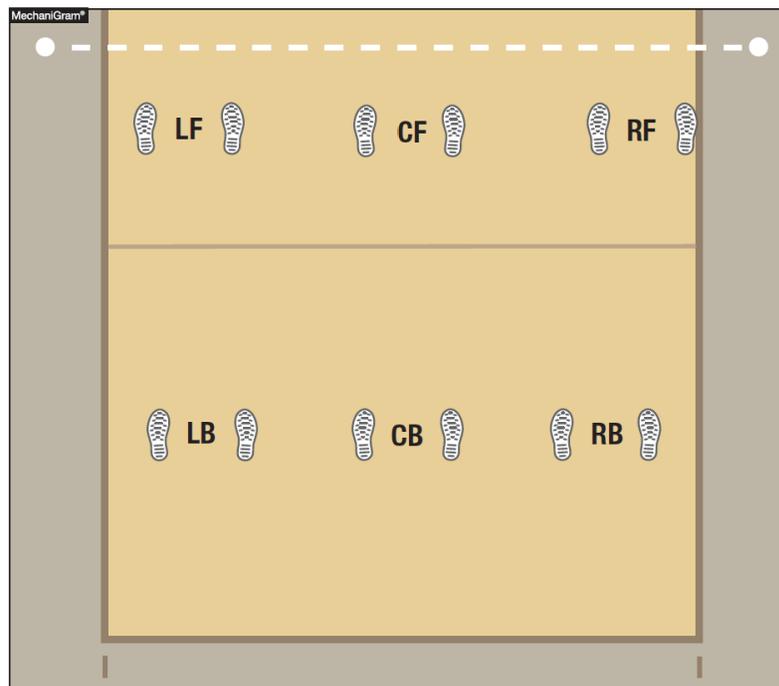
NFHS Boys Volleyball Weekly Rule Interpretations

Alignment/Overlapping

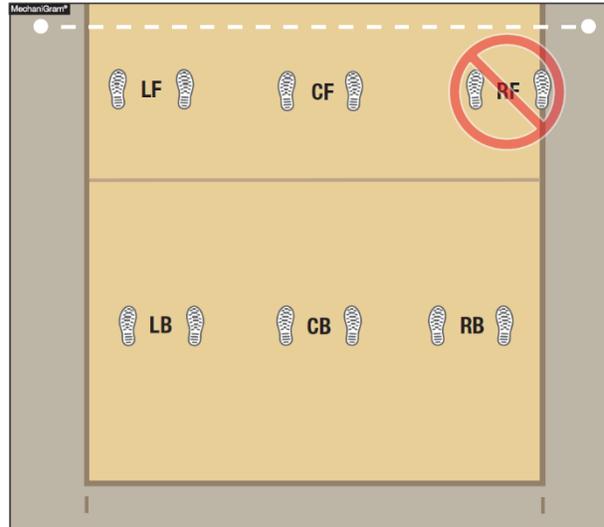
Overlapping: The potential for player overlapping occurs as teams adjust player positions in order to enhance team passing, facilitate smoother setter and hitter transitions, or to disguise attack presentation. The following diagrams show various team serve-receive systems and possible overlapping situations created by each. The R1 is watching the serving team while the R2 is watching the receiving team.

The important point to remember when watching for overlapping is the position of ADJACENT players; side-to-side and back-to-front. An official must consider only the foot touching the floor when judging an overlap.

Standard Lineup: This is a LEGAL lineup. The RF is on the sideline but is not touching outside the sideline.



Standard Lineup: This is an **ILLEGAL ALIGNMENT** if, at the contact for serve, the RF is touching outside the sideline.

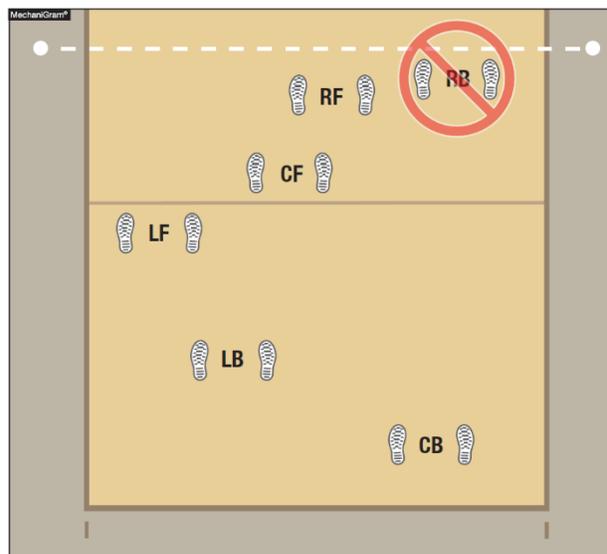


Position at contact for serve:

Overlapping?

RULING: ILLEGAL

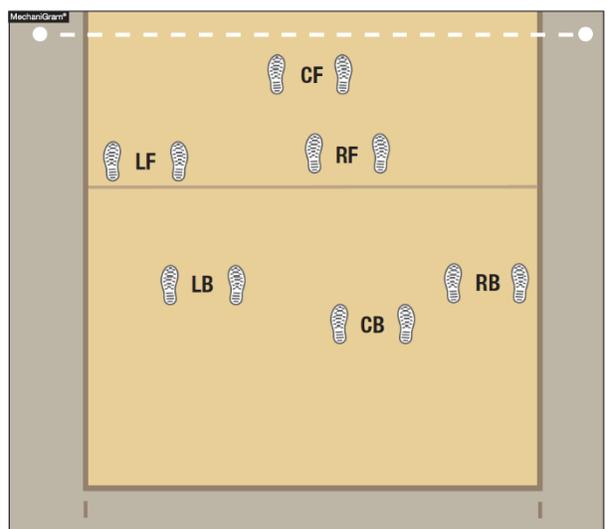
COMMENT: The RB is closer to the net than the RF



Position at contact for serve:

Overlapping?

RULING: LEGAL

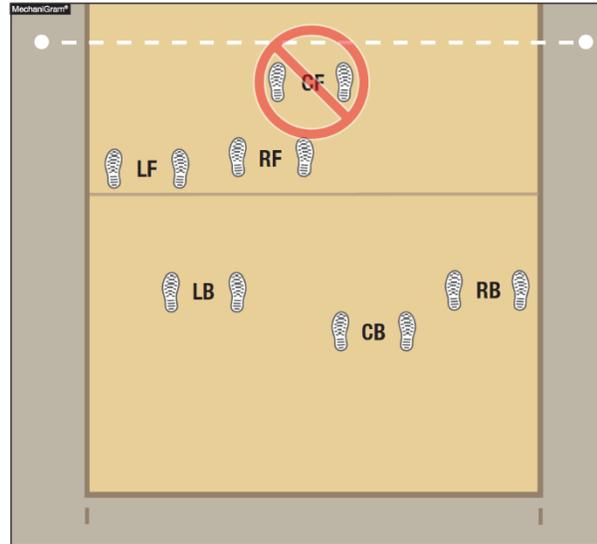


Position at contact for serve:

Overlapping?

RULING: ILLEGAL

COMMENT: The CF is closer to the right sideline than the RF.

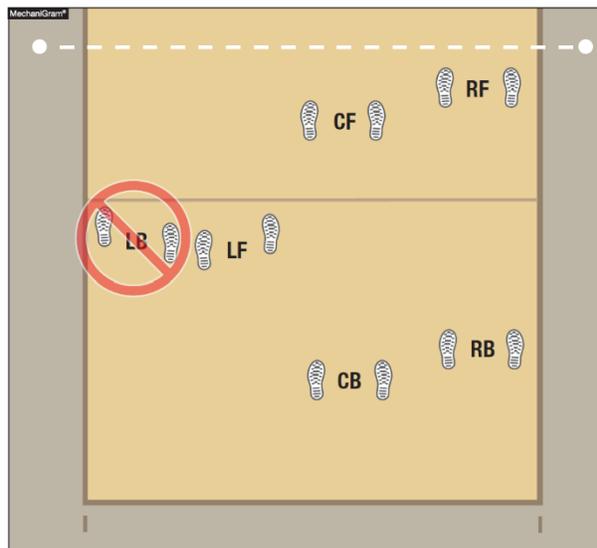


Position at contact for serve:

Overlapping?

RULING: ILLEGAL

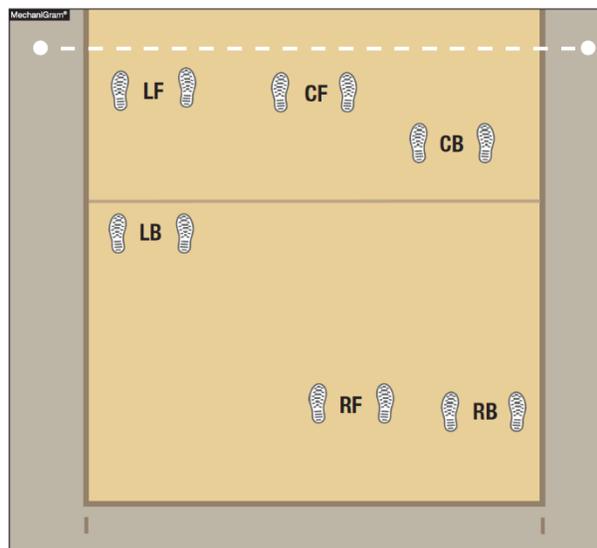
COMMENT: The LB (Left Backhand) is closer to the net than the LF (Left Forehand).



Positioning at contact for serve:

Overlapping?

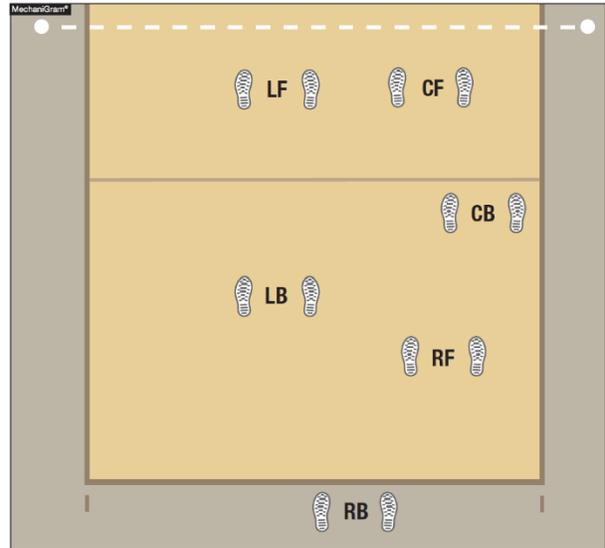
RULING: LEGAL



SERVING TEAM: Position at contact for serve:

Overlapping?

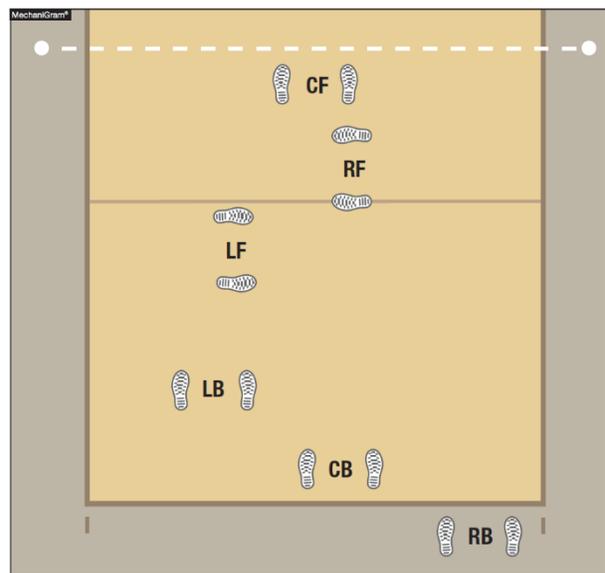
RULING: LEGAL



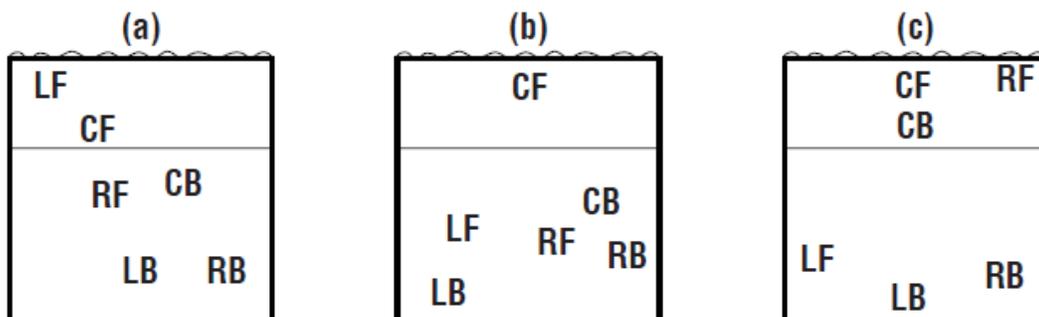
SERVING TEAM: Position at contact for serve:

Overlapping?

RULING: LEGAL

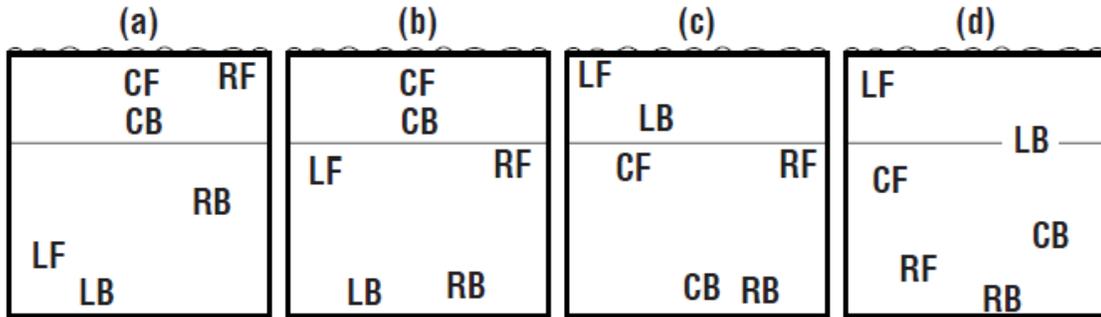


SITUATION: Team R is in one of the following positions at the contact of a legal serve:



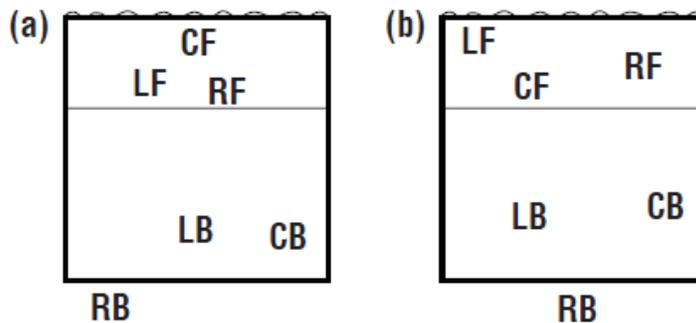
RULING: (a), (b) and (c) legal alignment.

SITUATION: Team R is in one of the following positions at the contact of a legal serve:



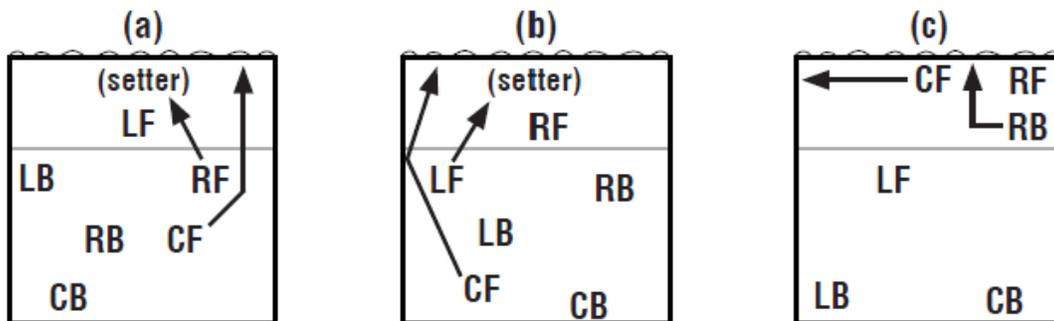
RULING: (a), (b), and (c) legal alignment; (d) illegal alignment, overlapping RB and CB, loss of rally/point.

SITUATION: Team S is in one of the following positions at the contact of a legal serve:



RULING: (a) and (b) Legal alignment. **COMMENT:** The server is not considered when alignment is determined.

SITUATION: Team R is moving in one of the following ways at the moment of contact on a legal serve:



RULING: (a), (b) and (c) legal. **COMMENT:** Player movement is legal provided the players are in proper alignment at the moment of serve.