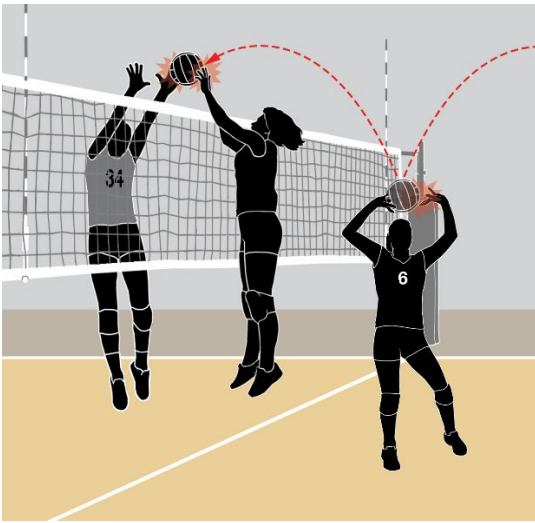




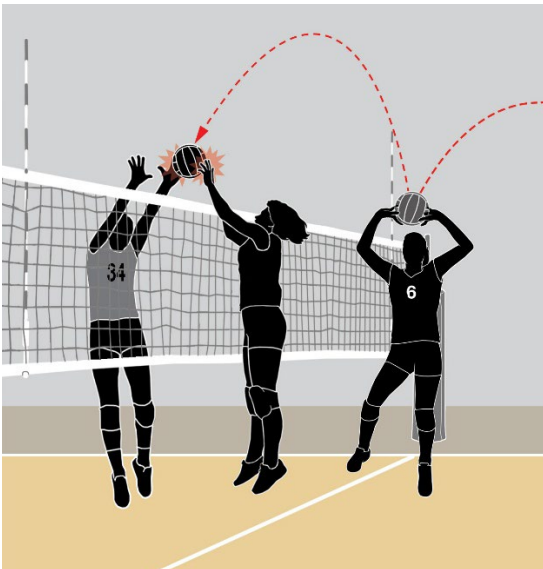
September 9, 2026

NFHS Volleyball Weekly Rule Interpretations

Contacting the Ball - Simultaneous Contact



SITUATION 1: The setter on Team R contacts the ball first with the right and then the left hand on an overhand pass that is next contacted simultaneously by Team R's LF and Team S's RF. The officials allow play to continue. **RULING:** Correct procedure. **COMMENT:** On the second team hit, multiple contacts are permitted if the next contact is by a teammate. Simultaneous contact is considered contact by a teammate. (9-4-8, 9.4.8 SITUATION E)



SITUATION 2: A back-row setter, positioned in front of the attack line, jump-sets the ball which is entirely above the height of the net. The ball enters the plane of the net when a teammate and a blocker simultaneously contact the ball. The official whistles a back-row attack on the setter. **RULING:** Correct procedure – back row attack. **COMMENT:** The back-row setter completes an illegal attack the moment it is legally contacted by an opponent. Simultaneous contact does not eliminate the rule violation of the back-row attack. (9-5-1b, 9-5-4)

Q: Why are the two plays involving simultaneous contact different?

In **Situation 1**, the judgment call of a multiple-contact fault is delayed until the ball's next contact. If a teammate is next to contact the ball solo or simultaneously, no fault – play on.

In **Situation 2**, the back-row setter's contact met all the requirements for an illegal attack and upon legal contact by the opponent, solo or simultaneous, the attack was complete and therefore an illegal attack.