

# Southern Nevada Officials Association Volleyball Officials Handbook

Draft Fall 2014

## I. Local Information, Adjustments and Additions to the Rules

### Rule 1

#### 1. Match Format

- a. All SNOA matches are rally scoring with no cap, win by 2. Match formats are best 2 of 3 for the B and JV, play to 25 points, except game 3 is to 15, and best 3 out of 5 in Varsity, play to 25 points in games 1 through 4, and to 15 points in game 5. For tournaments, and in some leagues with permission of the state, the format may be altered. We do what the home team requests, when there is disagreement.
- b. SNOA officials do not rule on the eligibility of players to compete in a match. If there is a dispute, it is up to the coaches and administrators to work it out.

### Rule 2

#### 2. Court and Markings

- a. Courts with mascots across the center of the court often do not have a center line drawn through the mascot. Teams are not required to draw or tape the center line. Officials will, however, continue to call line violations as if the line was present. Such calls are considered judgement calls.

### Rule 3

#### 3. The Ball

- a. There is an official volleyball that is required for Regional and State tournaments only. This is the Molten Super Touch, in red, white, and blue colors. This ball should be used during the regular season, even without the NFHS seal. However, teams may continue to use any NFHS approved balls, including other colors of Super Touch, or, in men's season, the Molten Pro Touch. National Federation rules and local interpretation do not require any specific brand and model of ball for use by teams, so long as other balls meet the requirements of the rule with regard to size, weight, markings, Federation seal and color. Officials shall not deny the use of balls provided by the home team that meet the minimum requirements.

### Rule 4

#### 4. Player Uniforms

- a. The rule book requires "like colored" uniforms, not identical uniforms.

- b. Uniform rules should be enforced with a strong dose of common sense in the B and JV matches. Many teams use "hand-me-down" uniforms for these teams, and they will often have a few non-matching uniforms. These should not be penalized, unless some preventable problem such as duplicate numbers is discovered after play has begun. Uniforms must have numbers. With the R1's approval, numbers may be put on the uniform with tape.
- c. If an entire team is in illegal uniforms, normal procedure is to apply one point/side-out at the start of the match and report the problem. However, these are often discovered at the beginning of the season and approval from the Commissioner is obtained. Officials will be notified at officials meetings when approval for illegal uniforms has been obtained. Unless you know differently, do not penalize a team unless told to do so at a meeting.

## Rule 5

### 5. Officials' Uniform

- a. SNOA volleyball officials regular season uniforms shall consist of one of the following combinations (NOTE: Officials do NOT have to match):
  - i. "Certified" white polo shirt, black dress slacks, white socks, white shoes,
  - ii. "Certified" white polo shirt, black dress slacks, black socks, black shoes,
  - iii. "Certified" white polo shirt, black dress shorts, white socks, white shoes.
- b. Officials may wear unobtrusive jewelry that will not interfere with or limit them in their duties. Watches must be worn to provide backup for timing warmup, times-out and time between games/matches. Officials should not have visible pens/pencils or items other than their red, yellow and R2's cards in their uniform pocket.
- c. Optionally, officials may wear:
  - i. The SNOA approved white fleece pullover or
  - ii. The SNOA approved black polyester pullover or
  - iii. all white unadorned tee shirt beneath the Certified polo shirt.

### 6. Line Judges

- a. While the rule book states that the R1 is responsible for briefing the line judges, we prefer that the R2 conduct the briefing so that the R1 is free to observe the team warmups. R1s may still choose to conduct the briefing. At schools using ball shaggers, the R2 should find and brief the shaggers, provided by the home team.
- b. In sub-varsity matches and in some varsity matches, each school is required to provide a person (student or adult) as a line judge. In varsity matches where SNOA line judges are to be used (most 4A varsity matches), the home team is responsible for providing a substitute line judge or judges if fewer than four SNOA officials are available. Schools may not refuse to provide line judges or, where required for their league (4A), ball shaggers. Non-SNOA line judges are not paid. We prefer these line judges to be players or coaches, but, in any case, must be selected by the coach of the home team, not the officials. The R1 may, if there is no scorekeeper for the

Varsity match, use one of the line judges as the scorekeeper, and have the home school provide a line judge.

7. Scorekeeper/Timer

- a. The rule book also states that the R2 is responsible for briefing the scorer and timer. We prefer that the R1 and R2 both meet with the scorer and timer, and that the R1 conduct the briefing.

8. Court Protocol

- a. Rules do not require that teams be penalized for failure to obey end-of-match court protocol. During the regular season, penalties should be administered for failure to follow procedure. Officials, however, should apply common sense in penalizing during tournament championship matches, season end critical matches and similar times when celebrations are going to occur. Best policy is to check with the scorer when the score reaches 14 or 24 to ensure the book is correct and then to permit celebration without forcing end-of-match procedures to be followed. The R1 should brief the teams during the pre-match conference concerning his/her expectations for the end-of-match.

II Pre-Match Procedure

<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Comments</u>
30	Officials on site	
20	Scorekeeper on site	Conference. Notify scorekeeper of outcome.
16	Visitor team court	
	Set Clock to 8:00	Horn
	At 2:00 on clock	Rosters due. Penalty for changes, Check for accuracy.
8	Home team court	
	Set Clock to 8:00	Hit the horn, Start clock when first player hits the ball.
	At 2:00 on clock	Lineups Due. If in, cannot be changed after clock reaches 2:00

- When unusual circumstances (like a late bus or senior night) occur, the schedule should be altered by the R1, in conjunction with the coaches.

III. Evaluation of Officials

- 1. Each Official will be ranked into one of five rating groups by the Volleyball Board.

- a. The groups are: D1/D1A Varsity R1 (100), D3/D4 Varsity R1 (200), JV R1 (300), B R1 (400), and R2 Only (500 and lower).
  - b. Officials may be given different ratings as R1 and R2.
  - c. The Assignor may assign a person to a higher level match when no other officials are available.
2. At each site, the Varsity R1 shall be required to complete an evaluation of each partner they were able to observe using the forms on the [snoavb.com](http://snoavb.com) website.
  3. The rankings of the officials shall be based on the evaluations of the Varsity R1's, evaluations performed by Board members not assigned to work that match, evaluations from the Instructional Team and evaluations received from coaches.
  4. Each official shall be notified at least once a year of their ranking, and provided whenever possible with the evaluations of R1s, Instructional Team, Board members, and coaches. The Board members are responsible for ensuring that every official is observed a sufficient number of times to receive a fair evaluation.

#### IV. Assigning Policy

1. It is the policy of SNOA Volleyball that:
  - a. Assignments of in-season matches be spread out among the available officials to the extent reasonably possible.
  - b. The number of assignments received will be negatively impacted when officials are frequently late, assignments are missed, or the official is not maintaining the high level of professionalism expected.
  - c. When a D1/D1A school has no B team, the normal assignment practice is for the two JV officials to be the varsity line judges, and the Varsity R1 and R2 to be scheduled for only one match. The assignor has the discretion to vary from this practice if necessary.
  - d. Normal assigning practice for the D1/D1A schools with two gyms will be to split the two most experienced officials, one to each gym, for the B and JV. The assignor has the discretion to vary from this practice if necessary and the Board may request variation for evaluation purposes.
  - e. Tournament assignments should equally be spread out among the available officials. Varsity tournaments are generally assigned to varsity officials. B and JV tournaments are normally assigned to JV and B officials first. Often schools request varsity level officials for the finals of B and JV tournaments.
2. Playoff assignment policies are:
  - a. To be playoff eligible, an official must attend at least 5 training sessions as designated by the Board, and must score at least an 80 on the NFHS Exam in accordance with NIAA policy. The Instructional Team may hold meetings on alternate nights for officials who cannot attend on Sundays, after notifying the Board.
  - b. Rankings still apply during the playoffs. R1 slots in the playoffs at all levels are generally filled with D1/D1A ranked varsity officials, with R2 assignments generally including some D3/D4 officials. Line judge assignments may come from any level.
  - c. Regional assignments will be spread out among the qualified officials where possible.
  - d. There are, in every two year cycle, 7 R1, 7 R2, and 16 line judge spots available in state finals. The intent of SNOA volleyball is to have 30 different people in those spots, with actual assignments dependent on maintaining the level of experience and quality given the availability of qualified officials.

3. Officials are expected to complete the assignments they accept. It is the responsibility of the official to notify the assignor of changes in their schedule that alters their ability to complete their assignments. Officials, except where authorized for evaluation purposes, may not swap assignments with other officials, nor may they switch position (R1, R2, linesperson) without the permission of the assignor.
4. SNOA policy permits the fining of officials who are out of uniform, late, miss assignments, turn back assignments after accepting them or switch assignments with other officials. Volleyball has adopted the SNOA fine schedule without alteration.
5. Officials who work early matches when later matches will be played in the same gym must remain on site until their replacements arrive. If only one official is present at the match site that official should proceed through the pre-game procedure on schedule and conduct the match by themselves if necessary. If an official from an earlier match is available, that official must step in and work the match. Once the match begins, the officials who start it will finish it, even if the scheduled official(s) arrive. If the R1 arrives past the game start and the R2 has begun the match as the solo R1, the late arriving official will become the R2. Officials shall not change positions after the match has begun. Notify the assignor of any unusual circumstance that occurs.
6. If a match ends early and the officials for the following match have not arrived, it is not permissible for the officials on site to begin preparations for the match to follow, nor start that match, before its scheduled time. These officials should remain on site and act only if the warmup time has begun for the next match and no new officials have reached the match site.
7. Officials traveling to remote sites are expected to travel together, except to Boulder City. The two officials must communicate well before the date of the match and determine who will drive, where they will meet and when. Travel should be scheduled to allow arrival at least 45 minutes prior to match time without having to drive in an unsafe manner. Officials should trade off driving responsibility over the course of the season. Normally officials travel in street clothes and change into their uniforms upon arrival.
8. The driver is responsible for providing drinks and snacks on all trips. On longer trips, the driver should buy meals as well. Officials should not offer to drive if the vehicle is not in good running condition, or would be uncomfortable. For example, if five officials are traveling to a tournament, three of them should not be asked to sit in the rear of a subcompact car.
9. It is never acceptable for officials to change clothes in the gymnasium, either before or after a match. Officials are not to use cell phones during warmups, between sets, or during a match.
10. Officials must be cautious in their conversation and posts to social media. While in the stands, each official is still representing SNOA and must limit their conversation with fans and with other officials. It is never permissible to publicly discuss another official, even with other officials, when fans, coaches or players are present. It is perfectly acceptable to answer questions about the rules, however, good judgement is required in way the answer is given. Officials are discouraged from commenting to the media about any match, whether they worked it or not.
11. Officials should refer to team coaches as “coach” while on assignment.
12. Officials must notify the assignor of potential conflicts of interest they may have with a coach or school. These include employment at a school, children enrolled at a school, personal relationships with coaches and business relationships such as coaching club teams or teaching clinics with coaches.

V. Assignor and Instructional Chair/Instructional Team

1. The duties, qualifications, and responsibilities of the Assignor, Instructional Chair, and members of the Instructional Team shall be posted by the Board on the snoavb.com website.
2. The Instructional Chair/Instructional Team shall create and post an agenda for each meeting, and minutes of the meeting.

VI. Compensation

1. When the compensation available for officials is changed by the NIAA/SNOA, the Board shall bring it's proposal for allocating the additional funds to the membership for discussion and approval.