

*SOUTHERN NEVADA  
OFFICIALS  
ASSOCIATION*

**VOLLEYBALL**

**OFFICIALS**

**HANDBOOK**

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## **THE VOLLEYBALL MATCH**

1. All SNOA matches are rally scoring with no cap, and won by 2 points. Varsity match formats are best 3 of 5 sets, played to 25 points for first 4 sets and 15 points for 5th set. Because of distance traveled, some smaller schools, with permission of the state, may play two matches, best 2 of 3 sets each in lieu of one 5 set match. B and JV match formats are best 2 of 3 sets played to 25 points for first 2 sets and 15 points for the 3<sup>rd</sup> set. For tournaments and in some leagues, the above formats may be altered. We do what the home team requests when there is disagreement.
2. Middle school matches are always best 2 of 3 sets played to 25 points for sets 1 and 2 and 15 points for deciding set (3). Middle school matches will generally adhere to the NFHS rules, except under special situations that are approved by the R1.
- 3 SNOA officials do not rule on the eligibility of players to compete in a match. If the coaches cannot agree on the legality of a player, play the match and let the administrators argue later.

## **THE COURT**

1. Some courts may have a mascot across the centerline and often do not have a center line drawn through the mascot. Teams are not required to draw or tape the center line. Judgment calls by the officials on center line violations will be made as if there were a line present.
2. The R1 should also inspect the court to ensure proper clearance from the playing area. Movable objects within the playing area must be moved outside the area. Where there is insufficient clearance, the R1 will provide guidance during the pre-match conference.

## **THE BALL**

The official ball required for Regional and State tournaments is the Molten Soft Touch IV58L-3, in red, white and blue colors. Teams may use any ball during the season that complies with NFHS rules requirements for the size, weight, markings, NFHS seal and color. Officials shall not deny the use of balls provided by the home team that meet the minimum requirements.

## **PLAYERS' UNIFORMS**

1. The Rule book requires "like colored" uniforms, not identical uniforms. However, numbers must be placed on all in accordance with the rule book. The R1 may approve the adding or altering of a number using tape on the jersey. Uniform rules should be enforced with a strong dose of common sense in the B, JV and middle school matches. Many times these are "hand-me-down" uniforms for these teams. These teams should not be penalized, unless some preventable problem such as duplicate numbers are discovered after play has begun.
2. If the entire team is in an illegal uniform, normal procedure is to apply one point/side out at the start of the match and report the problem to the commissioner and the volleyball board. Some teams may have a color combinations between the number and the jersey that make them unreadable from a distance

(such as a Black number on dark blue jersey). If possible take a snapshot of the uniform and report the situation to the volleyball board. Often these issues are discovered at the start of the season and the Commissioner may have given approval for their continued use. Officials should be notified at meetings of such approvals.

## **OFFICIAL'S UNIFORM**

1. There are three options for regular season uniforms for volleyball officials. NOTE: Officials do not have to match the option between black shorts vs. black dress slacks.

A. PAVO "Certified" polo shirt, black dress slacks, white socks and white shoes

B. PAVO "Certified" polo shirt, black dress slacks, black socks and black shoes.

C. PAVO "Certified" polo shirt, black dress shorts, white socks and white shoes

The PAVO polo shirt is the preferred white polo shirt authorized for use by SNOA officials. Officials may still wear the white SNOA polo shirt. PAVO shirts may also come in blue or grey. If officials wish to wear the colored shirts for regular season matches, the R1 and R2 MUST be in same colored shirt. Shorts are NOT authorized for regional or state matches.

2. 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 sets/matches. Officials should not have visible pens/pencils or items other than red and yellow cards and R2's lineup cards in their uniform pocket.

3. Optional wear for officials includes wearing a white PAVO or SNOA pullover over the Certified PAVO or SNOA shirt, or wearing a white unadorned tee shirt under the white polo shirt. If the Certified polo shirt is grey or blue, a black or blue unadorned tee shirt may be worn.

## **LINE JUDGES AND BALL SHAGGERS**

1. While the rule book states R1 is responsible for briefing Line Judges, the R1 has the discretion to have the R2 brief the Line Judges. At schools using ball shaggers, the R2 should find and brief the shaggers provided by the home team.

2. Normally SNOA will provide line judges for Division 3A and 4A Varsity matches and for all regional matches at all levels. Line judges will also be provided for state matches as determined by allocation from the NIAA. In sub-varsity matches and in some varsity regular season matches, each school is required to provide a line judge. The home team is responsible for providing a line judge where there are not four SNOA officials available for the match. Schools may not refuse to provide line judges or shaggers (3A and 4A) where required for their league. Non-SNOA line judges are not paid. In the event a team does not have a person available to be a line judge, the home team must provide two judges. The CCSA requires line judges to be players, teachers, or coaches, but in any case be selected by the coaches, not the officials. The R1 has the option to replace a line judge if required.

3. If there is no scorekeeper for the Varsity match, the R1 use one of the SNOA line judges as the scorekeeper and have the home team provide a line judge.

## SCORER/TIMER/LIBERO TRACKER

The rule book provides that the R2 is responsible for briefing the scorer/timer. We prefer that both officials meet with the scorer/timer. When a libero tracker is used (mostly at select regional and state matches), we prefer that both officials meet the individual and the R1 brief the libero tracker.

## COURT PROTOCOL

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 procedures. However, officials should apply common sense in penalizing during tournament championship matches, season end critical matches and similar times when celebrations are going to occur. The best policy is for the R2 to check with scorer when score reaches 14 or 24 to ensure book is correct (and signal the R1 that set/match point has been reached) and then permit end-of-match celebrations without having to enforce procedures to be followed. The R1 should brief teams during pre-match conference concerning his/her expectations for the end-of -match.

## PRE-MATCH PROCEDURE

<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Comments</u>
30	Officials arrive on site	
20	Scorekeeper/timer on site	Set clock to 8 min
20		Conference (Collect rosters. Tell scorer results)
<b>16</b>		<b>Visitor team court</b>
8		Horn, set clock to 8 min
		<b>Home team court</b>
2		Lineups are due from both teams. Cannot make changes after clock reaches 2 min

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

## EVALUATION OF OFFICIALS

1. Each official will be ranked into one of five rating groups by the Volleyball Board: **100** (4A/3A Varsity R1), **200** (2A/1A Varsity R1), **300** (JV R1), **400** (B R1) and **500 or lower** (R2 only)
2. Officials in each group may R2 two groups higher The Assignor may assign a person to a higher level match when no other officials are available.
3. At each site, the Varsity R1 should complete an evaluation of each partner they were able to observe. At Appendix 2 is copy of Evaluation Form that should be used. You may copy this to submit in hard copy or submit online at snoavb.com website.
4. The ranking of officials shall be based upon evaluation input from Varsity R1s, evaluations performed by Board members not assigned to work that match, input from senior officials who may also be asked to evaluate an official, and input from coaches. Each official shall be notified at least yearly

of their ranking and provided, if available, copies of evaluations. Board members are responsible for ensuring that every official is observed a sufficient number of times to receive a fair evaluation.

5. Any official may request an Evaluation by sending email to the Assignor or a Board Member.

## **ASSIGNING POLICIES**

1. It is SNOA Volleyball policy that:

A. Assignments of regular matches be spread out among available officials to the extent reasonably possible.

B. The number of assignments received will be negatively impacted when officials are frequently late, assignment is missed or official fails to maintain high level of professionalism expected.

C. When a 4A or 3A school has no B team, normal assignment practice is to assign the two JV officials as the varsity line judges and the Varsity R1 and R2 for only one match. The Assignor has discretion to vary from this practice.

D. Normal assigning practice is for 4A and 3A schools with two gyms to split the two most experienced officials (generally the Varsity R1 and R2), one to each gym for the B and JV. The Assignor also has discretion to vary from this practice. Also, the Board may request variation for evaluation purposes.

E. Tournament assignments should be equally spread out among available officials. Varsity tournaments are generally assigned to Varsity officials and B and JV assigned to JV and B officials first. Often schools may request a Varsity official for the finals of B and JV tournaments.

2. Playoff assignment policies are:

A. To be eligible, an official must have attended at least 5 training meetings and scrimmages, and attained a minimum score of 80 on the NFHS test (test is given as an online test). The Instructional Team may hold meetings on alternate nights for officials who cannot attend on Sundays, after notifying the Board. The Instructional Team may also hold online training for all officials and those completing an online session will also be credited for attendance at training meeting or scrimmage.

B. Rankings still apply during playoffs. R1 slots in playoffs at all levels are generally filled with 4A/3A ranked Varsity Officials, with R2 assignments generally including some 2A/1A officials. Line judge assignments may come from any level.

C. Regional assignments will be spread out among qualified and eligible officials where possible..

D. For State Tournament matches, the NIAA will designate to SNOA which slots (R1, R2 and Line Judge) are to be filled by SNOA officials. The intent of SNOA Volleyball is to maximize the number of different people in those spots, with actual assignments dependent on maintaining the level of experience and quality given the availability of qualified officials. Officials from other Nevada officials' associations will be assigned to other positions.

3. Officials are expected to complete the assignments they accept. The official is responsible to notify Assignor of changes in their personal schedules 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, line judge) without permission of the Assignor or Board member.

4. SNOA policy permits fining officials who are out of uniform, late for matches, miss assignments, turn back assignments after accepting them or switching assignments with other officials. Volleyball has adopted the SNOA guidelines, however, the Assignor and/or Board may adjust the amount of the fine depending upon extenuating circumstances, etc. The official will be advised of the amount of fine imposed.
5. Officials who work early matches, and there are later matches scheduled 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-match procedure and conduct 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 circumstances that occur to include who actually worked the match and in what position.
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 the match, before the 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 must be cautious in their conversations and posts to social media. While sitting in the stands, they are still representing SNOA. They should 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 judgment is required in the way the answer is given. Officials are discouraged from comment to media about any match, whether they worked the match or not.
8. Officials should always refer to team coaches as “coach” while on assignment.
9. Officials must notify the Assignor of potential conflicts of interest they may have with a coach or school. These include employment at that school, children enrolled at a school, personal relationships with coaches or business relationships such as coaching club teams or teaching clinics with coaches,
10. Officials should block out dates when they would be unavailable to officiate, block out sites or schools where situations shown in paragraph 9 above may occur, and block out other officials where there is a past issue of working together. Any blocks should be entered in Arbiter as soon as they are known to permit the Assignor more lead time in making assignments and avoiding declination of assignments by official.

## **ASSIGNOR AND INSTRUCTIONAL CHAIR/INSTRUCTIONAL TEAM**

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](http://snoavb.com) website. The Instructional Chair/Team shall create and post an agenda for each meeting and minutes of the meeting.

## **GENERAL TRAVEL POLICIES**

1. Officials traveling to remote sites are expected to travel together, except to Boulder City. The officials must communicate well before the date of the match and determine who will drive, and where and when they will meet. Travel times should be scheduled to allow safe arrival at least 45 minutes prior to match time. Directions to all travel sites (both in town and to remote sites) can be found by clicking on the match. Each match contains a link to the map of its location. Always leave a little early if traveling to a site where you have not been to before.
2. Officials should trade off driving responsibility over the course of the season, unless an official desires to not be the driver. Officials should not offer to drive if the vehicle is not in good running condition or would be uncomfortable for officials. 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.
3. Normally officials will travel in street clothes and change into uniform upon arrival at site. Host school should provide a place for officials to change in private. It is never acceptable to change in the gymnasium, either before or after match, other than to change from street shoes to uniform shoes on the court, preferably at the score table.
4. The driver is responsible for providing drinks and snacks on all trips. On longer trips, the driver should buy a meal for the rider.
5. Complete description of travel policies are attached as an Appendix 1 to this handbook. They have been approved by the SNOA Board of Control. Amounts paid as travel pay for drivers and riders can be found by clicking on the "Compensation" option on the SNOA Home Page.

## **TRAVEL PAY POLICIES FOR VOLLEYBALL OFFICIALS**

### ***A. WHEN TWO OFFICIALS TRAVEL TOGETHER FROM LAS VEGAS***

Officials will mutually determine who is Driver and who is Rider and they will be paid accordingly. If the original default for Driver (Var R1) shows other than what is agreed upon, a NOTE must be posted in Arbiter stating who drove and who rode.

### ***B. WHEN ONE OFFICIAL IS FROM LAS VEGAS AND THE OTHER IS FROM OUT OF TOWN***

1. If the out of town official is traveling less than 40 miles from his/her home (to include event in their home town), they will be paid the Rider travel pay and the official traveling from Las Vegas will be paid the Driver pay.

2. If the out of town official is traveling 40 or more miles from his/her home, both officials will split the combined Driver and Rider pays evenly.

### ***C. WHEN BOTH OFFICIALS ARE FROM OUT OF TOWN***

If both officials are from out of town, they will be paid the published Driver and Rider fees according to who drove and who rode. (If both drove, fees will be split evenly.) A NOTE must be entered to advise who drove, etc.



***D. WHEN THERE ARE THREE OR MORE OFFICIALS***

1. If all are from Las Vegas, as in A. above, they must agree on who will drive. That person is paid Driver pay and all others are paid Rider pay.
2. If one official is from out of town, paragraph B 2 above will apply. Other non drivers will receive Rider pay.
3. A NOTE must be entered in Arbiter to identify Driver and Riders .

***E. WHEN EVENT IS SCHEDULED IN BOULDER CITY***

ALL officials receive a flat posted travel pay regardless of from where they came.

***F. WHEN ONE OFFICIAL OPTS TO NOT RETURN HOME DIRECTLY, TRAVEL ON PERSONAL MATTER TO ANOTHER LOCATION, DRIVE ALONE, TAKE HIS FAMILY ALONG, ETC.***

An official who voluntarily chooses to not return directly home with partner(s) (Paragraphs A, B2, C, or D above) will be paid Rider pay and the other will be paid Driver pay. A NOTE must be entered in Arbiter to clarify this.

**NO TRAVEL PAY WILL BE PAID TO ANY OFFICIAL WHEN THE EVENT IS IN THE LAS VEGAS VALLEY, REGARDLESS OF HOW FAR THEY TRAVEL**