



SITTING VOLLEYBALL RULES OF THE GAME CASEBOOK

2026 Edition

Compiled and Prepared by the
WPV Refereeing and Rules of the Game Commission

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PREFACE

Sitting volleyball is a great game – just ask the people who play it, watch it, analyze it, and referee it. It has been actively adapted and promoted to be played by people with physical impairments and has developed tremendously as an exciting competitive sport. In the last years, changes have provided increased excitement, speed, explosive action, and a healthy image. This has created an impetus to develop the game even further; to make understanding of the game simpler and more attractive to an even wider range of viewing public.

Making a correct and uniform application of the rules on a world stage is also very important for further development of the game. This Casebook is a collection of plays with Official Rulings approved by the Refereeing and Rules of the Game Commission and based on the most up-to-date edition of the Rules. These rulings expand on and clarify the spirit and meaning of the Official Rules and are the official interpretations to be followed during all competitions.

It is worth noting that the referee is the one who puts the rules into practice. For the correct application of the rules, the referees not only have to know the rules faultlessly but must apply them decisively and correctly within the context of the game. The more important thing is that they should acquire and understand the basic principles behind the rule. If not, they would have great difficulty in applying them properly. This is especially true when a situation occurs which has not been clearly stated in the rules; the referees can now correctly make decisions with authority. Remember that ‘the referee has the power to decide any matter involving the game, including those not provided for in the rules.’ Hence, only based on full acquisition of those fundamental principles can this be done.

Remember also that the rules characterize the game, set the limits, define fairness, legalize techniques, provide a means of educating and form the basis for socializing. All these aspects are important.

This Casebook is based on the 2025-2028 edition of the Rules.

The cases are not designed to be a commentary on the performance of the referees in any way, but rather are to be used as a teaching tool for the benefit of all Referees.

Janko Plesnik (SLO)
Chair, WPV Referee Commission

THEORETICAL PRINCIPLES OF APPLICATION

The referee stays in the background, but at the same time acts to promote the game in the best light and in this way the game is attractive to a wider audience.

We want the game to be popular – making an attractive show is the way to do that.

THE RULES FOR THE 2026 CASEBOOK EDITION

The 2026 Casebook reflects the rules that were put into effect 1 Jan 2025. While other rule and philosophical changes are always likely to be considered, as a sport and its society changes, it is worth remembering that the rulings shown here are those relating to rules in force today.

CASES

CHAPTER 1 – PARTICIPANTS

TEAM COMPOSITION

Case No	Situation	Ruling
1.1	<p>Before the start of the match, during the official warm-up, the referees checked the numbers of the players of both teams. They noticed that Team A, Player #8, was on the team roster but they weren't on the court. The coach said that the player will arrive within 40 minutes (during the match).</p> <p>Should the referees allow this player to play?</p>	<p>Permission is granted by the Control Committee of the match or tournament if the identity of the players has been checked previously and the identity card is present.</p> <p>If there is no control committee, the referees must decide.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Jury Matter, Rule 23.2.3</p>
1.2	<p>Before the start of the match, the 2nd referee was checking the team's starting line ups and noticed that Team A, Player # 8, was on the court. The same player on the team starting lineup was now wearing #11.</p> <p>Should the referees allow the number change on the team's roster on the scoresheet?</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The referees together with the Jury Member should confirm the name and identity of the player. If they had the wrong number on the roster, they can play but their number on the roster must be corrected before start of the match. The referees must record this situation in the remarks section on the scoresheet.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 4.1.3</p>
1.3	<p>The head of the delegation introduced a team list with 12 players plus 2 Liberos.</p> <p>Is this acceptable at an official WPV competition?</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>According to the WPV rules, a team may consist of up to 14 players internationally classified with a 'confirmed' sport class status or a 'review' sport class status, including a maximum of two players classified as 'VS2'.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 4.1.1</p>
1.4	<p>How many 'minimal impairment' (VS2) players may enter the court?</p>	<p>The six players on court may include a maximum of one 'minimal impairment' (VS2) player. If a Libero is on court, the six players must still fulfill this requirement.</p> <p>The team roster may include a maximum of two players classified as VS2.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 4.1.1, 15.6.4, 15.9.2</p>

EQUIPMENT

Case No	Situation	Ruling
1.5	<p>During the official warm-up, it was noticed that the players from Team A were wearing socks with different colors.</p> <p>What is the procedure for the referees in this situation?</p>	<p>The referees should inform the Jury Member of their observation immediately.</p> <p>If conducting a match with no Jury Member, the referees should inform the coach of Team A that the whole team should play with uniforms of the same color, including the socks. The players should change their socks before the start of the match.</p> <p>If the team doesn't have socks of the same color, the first referee allows the players to participate in the match and records the issue in the remarks section of the scoresheet.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 4.3.1</p>
1.6 (new)	<p>During the World Cup, a team had two players that wore jerseys with number 22 and 49 respectively.</p> <p>Is this allowed?</p>	<p>Yes, this is allowed.</p> <p>For WPV, World and Official Competitions, it is permitted to wear numbers from 1 to 99.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 4.3.3</p>
1.7 (new)	<p>In the match, a team had two Liberos. Each wore a uniform that was different from the other and different from the rest of the team.</p> <p>Is this permitted?</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>There is no need for each Libero to have the same color or design of uniform. In fact, this may help the spectators and TV commentators to understand the role of each player.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 19.2</p>
1.8 (new)	<p>A team had several players wearing compression pads. Some of these pads were black, some white.</p> <p>Is it allowed to wear different colored compression pads?</p>	<p>Each player may wear compression sleeves on one or both arms. If the player wears more than one compression sleeve, they must be of the same style and color. The color must match the color of the jersey or be one of the neutral colors, black or white.</p> <p>If more than one player uses compression sleeves, each player is free to choose the color of their compression sleeves.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 4.5.3, WPV Event Regulations</p>
1.9 (new)	<p>During the general warm-up, several players wore garments over their official uniform or instead of their uniform. Because no numbers were visible, this prevented proper confirmation that the players on court matched the team roster.</p> <p>Should this be permitted?</p>	<p>The principle is that all players should be in uniform from the moment they enter the court to warm up.</p> <p>In some events, the protocol before the match is conducted by a specialist Sport Presentation team. In these cases, the regulation might be different. The referees should be informed about this.</p>

FORBIDDEN OBJECTS

Case No	Situation	Ruling
1.10	A prosthetic leg, a leg support, a plaster cast for a damaged wrist, etc. – are such devices allowed?	Some yes, provided that the device will not cause undue risk to the player or other players or provide an advantage. However, the rules allow a player to wear padded compression devices for injury prevention, as described in Rule 4.5.3. Rule 4.5.1, 4.5.3
1.11	During the official warm-up at the net, the referees noticed that Player #5 of Team B was wearing specially made thick shorts. Do the referees allow the player to play with these shorts?	No. Players are not allowed to wear specially made thick shorts or pants that can give an advantage. The referees must inform the Jury Member. If the player does not change their shorts, they cannot play in the match. Rule 4.3
1.12 (new)	Is a player allowed to play wearing a ring that is likely to cause injury?	Due to the risk of injury, the player must remove the ring or have it taped. Rule 4.5.1

CAPTAIN

Case No	Situation	Ruling
1.13	What is the proper response by the 1 st referee if a game captain constantly questions 1 st referee decisions?	Beyond the limits of Rule 5.1.2, they should warn the game captain with no penalty, as stated in Rule 21.1. If the behavior continues, the game captain should be sanctioned for rude conduct with a red card (point and service to the opponents). Rule 5.1.2, 20.1, 20.2, 21.2, 21.3.1, Diagram 9
1.14	The game captain asked the 1 st referee for a line-up check. Is this allowed?	Yes. However, the right to make this request should not be abused and so evaluated by the referee as an intention to delay the game by a team. Only detailed information about their own team may be provided. For the opponent team the only information that will be provided will be whether the players are correctly positioned. No information will be given about which players are front or back row players Rule 5.1.2.2

Case No	Situation	Ruling
1.15	Is the referee's decision final? Can they change their decision if the team protests?	Yes. The referee may change their own decision if they become aware of their mistake before the next service. On the other hand, the teams are not allowed to protest normal referee decisions. Rule 5.1.2.1, 23.2.4

COACH / ASSISTANT COACH

Case No	Situation	Ruling
1.16	The coach of Team A is also a player on the court. In this case only, the game captain is authorized to request time outs. Later during the match, the player/coach was off the court sitting on the bench. During this time, the game captain requested a time out for the team. Should the 2 nd referee allow the time out for Team A?	No. The game captain is authorized to request time outs only in the absence of the coach. In this case, the coach was on the bench. Rule 5.1.2.3, 5.2.3.3
1.17	The coach entered the court as a player for Team B. During one of the playing actions, the game captain of Team B was seriously injured and taken off the court. Who should nominate the new game captain in this situation?	This is a unique situation for the referees. Normally, the coach nominates the new game captain but in this case the coach is a player. The game captain cannot nominate their replacement due to injury. The rules do not cover this situation. In this situation, the referees should ask the coach on court to designate the new game captain. Rule 5.1.2.3, 5.2.3.3, 23.2.3
1.18	The coach of Team A was also a starting player in the first set. While the coach is on the court, may the assistant coach request time outs for the team?	In this situation, the coach loses his coach privileges because they are a normal player. The assistant coach is not authorized to request time outs. Should the coach have to leave their team for any reason, including a sanction, an assistant coach may assume the coach's functions for the duration of the absence, once confirmed to the referee by the game captain. Rule 5.1.3.2, 5.3.2
1.19	Are coaches permitted to speak to the 2 nd referee during the match about referee decisions or to protest?	No. Only the game captain is authorized to speak to the referees to request explanations. The coach is not authorized to do so. Rule 5.1.2, 5.2.3.4, 21.1, 21.2, 21.3

Case No	Situation	Ruling
1.20	If injured or disabled, can the coach be allowed to use crutches or a wheelchair in the free zone to perform their duties during the match?	Yes. To stand or walk with crutches or to use a wheelchair is not forbidden for the coach. Rule 5.2.3.4
1.21	During play, a coach kneels on one knee and observes the play. When the team takes a time-out, the coach sits on the floor together with the whole team. Is this acceptable?	Yes. Common sense should be used by the referees; the coach should be allowed to kneel in the free zone during play and sit with the team during the time-out. Rule 5.2.3.4
1.22	During one set, the coach of Team A went to the sideline and gave instructions to the players on the court a few times. The 2 nd referee didn't react. Was the 2 nd referee correct?	The 2 nd referee was correct. The coach can direct his team if walking or standing up to the sideline. If, however, the coach interferes with the vision of the line judges they can be asked politely to step back to allow for unobstructed view of the play. Rule 1.3.4, 5.2.3.4
1.23	An assistant coach sits at the end of the bench. Is this acceptable?	Yes. WPV rules indicate that the coach should sit on the team bench nearest to the scorer. Other members of the team may sit anywhere else on the bench, and players may be in the warm-up area. Rule 5.2.3.2, 5.3.1
1.24	During a time-out, the coach nervously pulled one of the female players. Should the referees react to this behavior?	This is a very difficult moment for the referees. In this situation, they must be very careful and look at the team. If the referees decide that the coach's behavior is aggressive towards the player, they must interrupt it. The referees must intervene if someone in the playing area behaves in an unsportsmanlike way toward another person on the court, even to a teammate. Rule 20.2.1, 23.3.2.2
1.25 (new)	May the assistant coach or a player press the buzzer for a time out?	Yes. The coach must still give the official hand signal, even if tablets are used to make such requests. Rule 5.2.1, 5.2.3.3, 5.3.1
1.26 (new)	Where may the coach move during the match?	The coach, and only the coach, has the right to walk in the free zone during the match between the extension of the attack line and the warm-up area without disturbing the game and the work of the line judge / 2 nd referee. Rule 5.2.1, 5.2.3.1, 5.2.3.4

Case No	Situation	Ruling
1.27 (new)	Is it allowed for the coach or assistant coach to assist the players warming up with balls during the interval between sets in the free zone?	<p>No.</p> <p>These people have the right to do it solely during the official warm-up before the match. Only the players have the right to warm up in the free zone behind their own court between sets.</p> <p>If this happens, the referees should instruct the coach or assistant coach in a polite way to return to the team's bench.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 4.2.4, 5.3.1</p>
1.28 (new)	During the warm-up, is any person from the team's officials allowed to stay in the opponent's free zone or court?	<p>In case of common official warm-up at the net the general principle is that the warm-up can be practiced solely in the team's OWN playing area. Coaches are allowed to stand near the net to help prevent injuries, or in the opponent's free zone when supervising their team. But this should be solely a supervisory or injury prevention role.</p> <p>In case of separate official warm-up, the entire playing area may be used by the team warming with the balls at the net. The other team can use the free zone behind its own court, without disturbing the team at the net.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Referee Guidelines and Instructions 2026</p>
1.29 (new)	In the World Championships, an extra assistant coach / team official was observed serving the ball to specific players inside the court during the warm-up. The WPV Jury Member requested the referees stop this activity, was it correct?	<p>Correct action.</p> <p>The rule stipulates that only the five officials on the bench may take part in the official warm-up. Extra people who are not on the approved team list or other team officials (e.g., team manager) have no right to take part in the non-official warm-up or the official warm-up at the net.</p> <p>The referees should bring this sort of activity to the notice of the WPV Jury Member.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 4.1.1</p>
1.30 (new)	Coaches were observed on the opponent's side of the court serving or spiking balls towards members of their own team. Should this be permitted?	<p>No, this should not be permitted.</p> <p>It is allowed for the officials appearing on the team list to be close to the posts to prevent situations that can be dangerous for the players, but to stay on the opponent's side and actively participate in the warm-up is forbidden.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Referee Guidelines and Instructions 2026</p>

CHAPTER 2 – PLAYING FORMAT

OFFICIAL WARM-UP SESSION

Case No	Situation	Ruling
2.1	During the official warm-up at the net, the Libero sits on the court and defends opponent attacks. Is this action allowed?	Yes. This action is allowed if the Libero does not interfere with the opponent attackers. Rule 7.2
2.2	During the official warm-up at the net, a player of Team B blocks Team A attackers. Is this action allowed?	No. Team B players cannot impede the Team A attackers even if their block is inside their playing space. Rule 7.2

POSITIONAL AND ROTATIONAL FAULTS

Case No	Situation	Ruling
2.3	The server of Team A is in the service zone. They have a ball in their hands and are waiting for the 1 st referee to whistle for service. At the moment of the service hit, their buttocks are behind the end line, but their legs are clearly in the court. The Team B players are in the right positions on the court. The 1 st referee does not stop play because they decide the server did not commit a fault. Was the decision correct?	The decision of the 1 st referee was correct. At the moment of the service hit, the server's buttocks must be behind the end line in the service zone, and their legs/hands can be in the court. According to the rules, positions of players on the court are determined only according to the buttocks position. Rule 12.3, 12.4.3
2.4	The Team A server is in the service zone. They have a ball in their hands and are waiting for the 1 st referee to whistle for service. Their legs are clearly in the court and buttocks behind the end line in the service zone. At the moment of the service hit, the server's buttocks shortly lose contact with the floor. At the same moment, the receiving team commits a positional fault. Which team should serve next?	As the server's buttocks lost contact with the floor at the moment of the service hit, the server committed a lifting fault. At the same moment, the receiving team committed a positional fault that the 2 nd referee whistled. In this situation, according to Rule 12.7.1, the service fault happened first. Team B wins the rally and should serve next. Rule 7.5.2, 9.3.5, 12.4.3, 12.7.1

Case No	Situation	Ruling
2.5	<p>During Team A's service hit, player #9 of receiving Team B had both buttocks on the court but also leaned with one hand on the floor clearly outside the sideline. The 2nd referee whistled a positional fault against Team B, player #9.</p> <p>The captain of Team B didn't agree with the 2nd referee's decision and argued that player #9 did not commit a fault and could lean with his hand outside of the sideline.</p> <p>The 1st referee consulted with the 2nd referee about the decision and replayed the last rally. Was this decision correct?</p>	<p>The decision to replay was correct; the 2nd referee's decision was in error.</p> <p>The position of the players on the court is determined by the buttocks; the position of the hands and legs is not important. According to the rules, Team B did not commit a fault.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 7.4, 7.4.3</p>
2.6	<p>The last rally was won by the receiving team, Team B. After rotation, player #8 in position 2 moved to the service zone. After a short team discussion, they decided that next server should be player #5, who played in position 3 (middle blocker) during the last rally. Player #8 moved to position 6 (middle back). The 2nd referee checked with the scorer and noticed that during the last rally, Team B played in incorrect positions.</p> <p>What is the correct decision of the referees in this situation?</p>	<p>If during the last rally, the players of Team B played in wrong positions, this rally should have been won by Team A. The referees should change their decision and award a point and service to Team A. Team B should correct their positions according to the scoresheet.</p> <p>In this case, the referees determined that Team B was in the wrong positions only during the last rally. The scorer determines the exact moment when the fault was committed, and all points scored subsequently by the team at fault must be cancelled. Team A's points remain valid. If that moment cannot be determined no point(s) cancellation takes place, and a point and service to Team A is the only sanction.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 7.6.1, 7.7.2, 12.2.2.2</p>
2.7	<p>During the match, the scorer noticed that the wrong player had moved to the service zone. When the server was in position to serve with the ball in their hands, the scorer pushed the buzzer and started to wave a hand, indicating that it was the wrong server.</p> <p>Was the scorer's procedure correct?</p>	<p>No.</p> <p>When the scorer noticed that the wrong server was preparing for service, they should have done nothing. Immediately after the service hit, the scorer should have pushed the buzzer to inform the 2nd referee that the service order was violated and that the team committed a fault.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 12.6.1.1, 27.2.2</p>
2.8	<p>During the service hit, some players were sitting with parts of their feet or legs penetrating the opponent's court. Neither the 1st nor the 2nd referee whistled for players being outside of the boundary lines of their court when the server hit the ball for service.</p> <p>Were the referees correct?</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The decision is correct; however, the referees should ensure that the players do not interfere or prevent the opponents from playing the ball.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 1.3.3, 7.4, 24.3.2.1</p>

Case No	Situation	Ruling
2.9	During the service hit, a player of the receiving Team B had their buttocks on the center line, across the axis of the line. The 2 nd referee did not whistle a fault for the Team B player. Was the decision of the 2 nd referee correct?	Yes, the decision was correct. The entire width of the center line is considered to belong to both courts equally. The player sat on the line and didn't commit a fault. Even if they sit partially on the opponent's court, it isn't a fault if the player doesn't interfere with the opponent's play. Rule 1.3.3, 7.4, 7.5.1, 24.3.2.1
2.10	The center back row player had a hand on the floor clearly in front of the buttocks of the center front row player at the time the ball was contacted for service. They had their buttocks behind the buttocks of the center front player. Is this a legal position for the receiving team?	This is a legal position. Only the buttocks that are in contact with the floor are considered when determining positional faults of players. Rule 7.4.3, 7.4.3.1, 7.5
2.11	After the service hit, scorer pushed the buzzer and wanted to inform about rotation fault of Team A. The 2 nd referee didn't whistle to stop play. The teams proceeded with the match and Team B won the rally. The 2 nd referee and scorer then checked the scoresheet and confirmed that Team A committed a rotation fault. The referees awarded Team B only a single point. Team B's game captain and coach intervened and pressed the referees for two points. Was the first referee correct to only award a single point?	The 1 st referee was correct. In this case, when Team A played after the rotational fault, Team B can only be awarded a single point. It isn't important which team won the play. On the other hand, the 2 nd referee must stop the game immediately after the scorer's buzzer. Rule 7.7.1, 7.7.1.1, 27.2.2.2
2.12 (new)	A team was given incorrect information about which player was to serve. Play continued. This incorrect information was noticed at a later point in the set. What happens now?	The teams must revert to as close to their original line-up as possible. The score is taken back to the point where the wrong information was given. The correct server is allowed to serve. However, any already issued warnings / sanctions remain valid. This event must be recorded on the scoresheet.

Case No	Situation	Ruling
2.13 (new)	<p>The teams were not ready to play because five (5) or seven (7) players were on court when the 1st referee was ready to whistle for service.</p> <p>What should have occurred?</p>	<p>The 1st referee should whistle for service when they are sure that the teams are ready to play and that the server is in possession of the ball. There must always be six (6) players per team in play.</p> <p>Because the 1st referee noticed the mistake before they whistled for service, they must give a delay sanction to the team at fault. The next team to serve depends on the type of delay sanction.</p> <p>If the 1st referee whistled for service when only 5 (or 7) players were on court, they must stop the rally immediately and replay without any sanction.</p> <p>If the situation is discovered after the end of the next rally, the result of this rally should be cancelled and replayed without any sanction.</p> <p>If no one discovered the situation or did so after the start of the next rally, the rally played with 5 (or 7) players of a team cannot be replayed.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 7.3.1, 7.5, 12.3</p>

CHAPTER 3 – PLAYING ACTIONS

PLAYING THE BALL

Case No	Situation	Ruling
3.1	Team A served the ball. Player #5 of Team B had their buttocks on the floor and received the ball with a forearm pass near the floor; the ball bounced and slightly touched their forehead. Did player #5 of Team B commit a fault?	No, player #5 of Team B did not commit a fault. During the first hit of the team, the ball may contact various parts of the body consecutively, provided that the contacts occur during one playing action. Rule 9.1.1, 9.2.3, 23.3.2.3b
3.2	Can a player legally hit the ball with the palm of one hand facing upwards?	Yes, they can. The hit must be judged by the quality of the ball contact; that is, is it a soft or hard rebound or whether the ball was caught and/or thrown. The 1 st referee must not be too hasty in whistling this play unless they can clearly see that the ball is caught and/or thrown. Rule 9.2.1, 9.2.2, 9.3.3, 9.3.4
3.3	After a block, can a player hit the ball twice in one action?	A blocker has the right to make successive contacts after a block, as long as they only make one action to play the ball. It is possible, however, to whistle a catch or throw on the first hit if two different motions (first catch, then throw) can be recognized within the action. Rule 9.2.2, 9.2.3.2, 14.2
3.4	Must the 1 st referee whistle for a ball handling fault if the player is making a spectacular recovery?	The referee should consider the principle of 'keep the ball flying'. If a player makes a quick movement and big effort to recover the ball, and during the hit a slight double contact has occurred, the referee must be less severe than in a normal situation. Referee Guidelines and Instructions 2026
3.5	The Team A setter hits the ball above the net, and at the moment of contact their fingers were in the opponent's space. After the set, the ball flew parallel to the net towards an attacker. Team B's blocker touched the ball in Team A's space, and the Team A player could not execute the attack hit. What should the 1 st referee decide?	According to Rule 9, each team must play the ball within its own playing area and space (except in the case of Rule 10.1.2). Therefore, since the Team A setter hit the ball in the opponent's space, the setter committed a fault. The Team B blocker also committed a fault by touching the ball in the opponent's space before the attack hit. Only the first fault is penalized, however. Rule 9

Case No	Situation	Ruling
3.6 (new)	A blocker 'redirected' the ball to the floor of the opponents. Is this legal?	This depends on whether the ball is caught or thrown (fault) rather than rebounding (no fault). It is legal to block the ball and direct it back to the opponent's court, but the illegal contact of 'catch' can be whistled during blocking. Rule 9.2.2
3.7 (new)	The left side attacker played the ball with two hands in a throwing action. How should the 1 st referee judge the action?	There is nothing to prevent a player making a two-handed attack, however, this can not be done using a catch and throw action. If there is prolonged contact, or the ball is released more than 25 cm later (as an example), this is a catch. Rule 9.2.2
3.8 (new)	The ball hit the tape but not the antenna. Should the rebound from the tape automatically be judged to have hit the antenna?	No, the referees must actually see the ball hit the antenna. Many forces come into play when the ball rebounds so referees should not automatically assume that a fault has occurred. Rule 22.2.1, 8.4.3

LIFTING

Case No	Situation	Ruling
3.9	Team A's setter, #6, passed the ball to the left side attacker, #4. During the attack hit, the ball was entirely higher than the top of the net and player #4 leaned on the floor causing their buttocks to have a short loss of contact with the floor. The referees whistled a fault – lifting. Were the referees correct?	Yes, the referees were correct. If the attacker's buttocks lost contact with the floor during the attack hit, it was a fault. Rule 9.3.5, 9.4, 13.3.4
3.10	When player #6 of Team A spiked the ball, they committed a fault – lifting. The 2 nd referee whistled. Was the action of the 2 nd referee correct?	Yes, the action was correct. Both referees should observe the buttocks of players during playing actions. While the 1 st and 2 nd referee have their own responsibilities, the 2 nd referee can assist in this case. If the 1 st referee did not see the lifting during the attack and the 2 nd referee did, the 2 nd referee must whistle. Rule 9.3.5, 24.3.2.8
3.11	Team A's player #5 received the ball and passed it to the setter, player #3. The setter stood up and took a few steps to reach the ball, then sat back down on their buttocks and played the ball. The 1 st referee did not whistle. Was the 1 st referee correct?	No, the 1 st referee was not correct. In sitting volleyball, it is forbidden to stand up, raise the body, or take steps to reach the ball. Rule 9.4.2, 23.3.2.3b, 23.3.2.8

Case No	Situation	Ruling
3.12	<p>During a playing action, the front row player of Team A lifted their buttocks as they executed an attack hit. After the attack hit, one of the Team B blockers lifted and contacted the ball. The 1st and 2nd referee whistled for lifting at the same time (1st referee for attacker, 2nd referee for the blocker).</p> <p>The referees awarded the point to Team B. Was the 1st referee's decision correct?</p>	<p>Yes, the 1st referee's decision was correct.</p> <p>Even though Rule 13.1.3 states that an attack hit is completed at the moment the ball completely crosses the vertical plane of the net or is touched by an opponent, the attack hit becomes faulty when the player lifts their buttocks the moment they hit the ball. In this situation, the Team A attacker committed a fault before the Team B blocker. The rally was won by Team B.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 13.3.4</p>
3.13	<p>During the Team A attack hit in position 4, the Team B blocker in position 2 lifts, but does not touch the ball. The 2nd referee whistles and calls a lifting fault on Team B.</p> <p>Is the 2nd referee's decision correct?</p>	<p>No, the 2nd referee's decision was not correct.</p> <p>Lifting by the blocker is not a fault unless the blocker touches the ball or participates in a completed block.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 14.6.3</p>
3.14	<p>The ball is travelling towards Team B after an opponent's attack hit. Team B's player in position 6 in the back zone is trying to reach for the ball, lifts their buttocks from the playing surface and contacts the ball, which is entirely higher than the top of the net. The 1st referee whistles and calls a lifting fault against Team B.</p> <p>Is the 1st referee's decision correct?</p>	<p>Yes, the 1st referee's decision was correct.</p> <p>Lifting is permitted in the back zone when a player plays the ball in a defensive action, and the contact is made when the ball is NOT entirely higher than the top of the net.</p> <p>In this case, the ball was entirely higher than the top of the net.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 9.4.1</p>
3.15	<p>The ball is travelling towards Team A after the opponent's attack hit. In Team A's back zone, the player in position 5 is trying to reach for the ball, lifts their buttocks and contacts the ball that is not entirely higher than the top of the net. The 1st referee whistles and calls a lifting fault against Team A.</p> <p>Is the 1st referee's decision correct?</p>	<p>No, the 1st referee's decision is not correct.</p> <p>Lifting is permitted in the back zone when a player plays the ball in a defensive action, and the contact is made when the ball is not entirely higher than the top of the net.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 9.4.1</p>
3.16	<p>After a very strong spike from Team A's player #9, the ball touched the block and went to the back zone of Team B. Team B's player #3 lost contact with the floor and played the ball in a spectacular manner. Contact with the ball was below the top of the net. During the next ball touch, Team B's player #1 also lost contact with the floor and played the ball below the top of the net.</p> <p>Did player #3 or player #1 commit a lifting fault?</p>	<p>No.</p> <p>The players in the back zone lost contact with the floor but did not play the ball when it was entirely higher than the top of the net during their defensive actions. Neither the first nor the second action should be ruled as faults.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 9.4.1</p>

Case No	Situation	Ruling
3.17	<p>The ball was travelling towards Team B after the opponent's attack hit. In Team B's back zone, player #3 lost contact with the floor and lightly touched the ball that was below the top of the net. Then, player #6, who was near the end line, kneeled and played the ball that was below the top of the net.</p> <p>Did player #3 or player #6 commit a lifting fault?</p>	<p>Player #3 did not commit a fault as they played the ball in a defensive action, and the ball was not entirely higher than the top of the net.</p> <p>Player #6, however, did commit a lifting fault as they were kneeling when they played the ball – this action is forbidden.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 9.4.1, 9.4.2</p>
3.18	<p>A Team A back row player attacked the ball in the front zone when the ball was entirely higher than the top of the net. Before the ball crossed the vertical plane of the net, the Team B blockers were lifting.</p> <p>What would the correct call be for the referees?</p>	<p>The attack hit is completed and becomes a fault the moment the ball completely crosses the vertical plane of the net or is touched by the opponent's block.</p> <p>The blockers only commit a fault if they touch the ball or participate in a completed block.</p> <p>In this case, the blockers were lifting but did not touch the ball. Therefore, the correct call would be to call an attack-hit fault against Team A once the ball completely crosses the vertical plane of the net.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 9.3.5, 13.1.3, 14.6.3</p>

PLAYER AT THE NET

Case No	Situation	Ruling
3.19	<p>During a playing action, Team B's setter #3 played the ball in position 2 and then leaned their back against the net outside of the antenna. They did not interfere with the opponent's play. They then returned to the court. The 2nd referee decided that the player committed a fault and whistled. Team B's captain did not agree with this decision.</p> <p>Was the 2nd referee correct?</p>	<p>No, the 2nd referee was not correct.</p> <p>The net contact took place outside of the antenna and did not interfere with the opponent's play. It was not a fault. The 1st referee should replay the rally.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 11.3.1, 11.3.2, 24.3.2.3</p>
3.20	<p>The setter sets the ball high from position 2 to position 4. Meanwhile, the opposing team's blocker touched the top band of the net in position 3.</p> <p>Is this a net fault?</p>	<p>No, this is not a net fault.</p> <p>Interfering involves contact with the top band during the action of playing the ball; the opposing blocker was not near the ball so the rally should continue.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 11.3.1</p>
3.21	<p>A setter reached above and beyond the plane of the net to set the ball so that their attacker could make an attack hit. The 1st referee whistled the play as a fault.</p> <p>Was the 1st referee correct?</p>	<p>Yes, the 1st referee was correct.</p> <p>Above the top of the net, a player must contact only the part of the ball on their own side (except in blocking).</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 9, 11.2.1</p>

Case No	Situation	Ruling
3.22	After simultaneous contact above the plane of the net, the ball landed out on Team A's side. Who gets the next service?	If the contact is truly simultaneous by the two opposing teams and the ball lands outside of the court, it is the fault of the team on the opposite side. In this case, Team A gets the point and next service. Rule 9.1.2.2, 9.1.2.3
3.23	Team A's player #6 attacks the ball. After this action, their hand touches the lower part of the net below the top band. Is this a net fault?	No, this is not a net fault. WPV rules permit a player to touch the net below the top band of the net unless it interferes with the opponent's play. In this situation, player #6 did not commit a fault so the referees should not whistle. Rule 11.3.1, 11.4.4
3.24	During a playing action over the net, Team A's attacker #5 touches the top band of the net. Just before that, Team B's blocker #11 touches the middle part of the net with their face. The 1 st referee whistles a fault against the attacker. Was the 1 st referee correct?	Yes, the 1 st referee was correct. The blocker touching the middle part of the net is not a fault unless it interferes with the opponent. However, the attacker touching the top band of the net between the antenna during the attack hit is a fault and the referee must whistle this fault. Rule 11.3.1, 11.4.4
3.25	Team B's setter #7 passed the ball to their attacker. After passing the ball, the setter leaned on the net (below the top of the net) to stabilize their position. Is this an acceptable action by the player?	No, this action is not acceptable. All actions of players that interfere with the opponent's play are faults. When the player supported themselves with the net to stabilize their position, they committed a fault, and the referees should whistle. Rule 11.4.4
3.26	Is physical contact always interference?	No. Many contacts occur in a match. The referees should only whistle these contacts if they interfere with or stop the opponent's ability to play. Rule 11.2.1, 11.2.2
3.27 (new)	An attack hit drove the net into the blocker's forearms. Is this a net fault?	No. If the net hits the player, there is no fault. Rule 11.3.1, 11.4.4
3.28 (new)	While attempting to block, but without touching the ball that was close to them, the blocker touched the net. Is this a fault?	Yes. Since this is 'in the action' of playing or attempting to play the ball, even though no contact was made this is a fault. Rule 11.3.1, 11.4.4

Case No	Situation	Ruling
3.29 (new)	A player hit the net with her hair while playing the ball. Was her action legal?	Yes. This must only be considered a fault if it is clear that the net touch affected the opponent's ability to play the ball or it interrupted the rally (e.g., a ponytail gets tangled in the net). If there was no interference either on the opponent's play or on the rally, the referees must not stop the game. Rule 11.3.1, 11.4.4

PENETRATION UNDER THE NET

Case No	Situation	Ruling
3.30	After blocking, Team A player #6 was turning to their own court. During this movement, they clearly crossed the center line and penetrated the opponent's court. They did not interfere with the play of Team B. The 2 nd referee did not whistle. Was the 2 nd referee correct?	Yes, the 2 nd referee was correct. Team A's player #6 did not interfere with the opponent's play, so therefore no fault was committed. Rule 11.2.2, 24.3.2.1
3.31	During blocking, Team A's blocker penetrated under the net into the opponent's court. The blocker's leg touched the Team B attacker, who failed to hit the ball because of the interference. The 2 nd referee whistled and indicated a fault to the Team A blocker. Was the 2 nd referee correct?	Yes, the 2 nd referee was correct. The Team A blocker interfered with the Team B attacker by not allowing them to play the ball. Rule 11.2.2, 24.3.2.1

SERVICE

Case No	Situation	Ruling
3.32	After the server, the ball hit the top of the horizontal band and tore it down. The 1 st referee replayed the rally. Was the 1 st referee correct?	Yes, the 1 st referee was correct. If the ball rips the mesh of the net or tears it down, the rally is cancelled and replayed. Rule 10.3.2
3.33	After the whistle for service, the serving team recognized the wrong player was set to serve. The correct server then entered the service zone ready to serve. Can this player now serve?	Yes, provided the service is made by the correct player within 8 seconds from the whistle for service. The 1 st referee must not whistle a second time to authorize the service. Rule 12.4.4

Case No	Situation	Ruling
3.34	The server received a ball from the ball retriever, and the 1 st referee then whistled for service. The server saw that the ball was wet and returned the ball to the ball retriever. After getting the new ball, the 1 st referee whistled for an 8 second fault. Was the 1 st referee correct?	If the server saw that the ball was wet, they should have given a hand signal or indication to the 1 st referee and given the ball back to the ball retriever. If the server did not indicate anything to the 1 st referee, the 1 st referee could not have known why the server passed the ball to the ball retriever. If a captain informs the 1 st referee about the wet ball, the 1 st referee can consult with the lines people or the 2 nd referee. After this, the 1 st referee can change their previous decision. Rule 12.4.4, 23.2.2, 23.2.3
3.35 (new)	Team A served. The ball hit the net and dropped towards the floor on Team A's side of the net. A player of Team B reached under the net and caught the ball before it hit the floor. Is this allowed?	Yes. The 1 st referee must whistle immediately when it is clear the ball will not cross the net through the crossing space. At this moment the ball is out of play. The 1 st referee must not wait until the ball hits the floor or a player of the serving team. Rule 12.6.2.1

ATTACK HIT AND BLOCK

Case No	Situation	Ruling
3.36	Team A served, and Team B returned the ball directly in the direction of Team A. The ball was intercepted by a Team A blocker, who clearly directed the ball in two directions, first forward and then to the side. The 1 st referee whistled and called the blocker for a catch or the ball. Was the 1 st referee correct?	Yes, the 1 st referee was correct. If the blocker caught and then threw the ball, even in a blocking action, they commit a fault (catch/throw). Rule 9.2.3
3.37	The Team B setter passed the ball to player #6 who was in position 5. During the attack hit, the legs of player #6 were in the attack zone, one buttock was behind the attack line and the other slightly touched it. Half of the ball was higher than the top of the net. The referee whistled an attack hit fault when the ball touched the Team A blockers. Was the referee's decision correct?	The referee's decision was not correct. During the attack hit, it is legal for the legs to cross the attack line, and illegal for one of the buttocks to touch the attack line (the attack line is part of the front zone). As the contact of the ball was not entirely above the height of the net, however, Team B did not commit a fault. If the ball was entirely higher than the top of the net and one buttock touches or crosses the attack line, it is a fault, and the referees should whistle. Rule 13.2.2, 13.2.3, 13.3.3

Case No	Situation	Ruling
3.38	<p>Team A legally blocked in the space of Team B. During the playing action, Team B's attacker player #9 pushed down on one hand of the Team A blocker, causing the Team A blocker's hand to touch the net.</p> <p>Which team was at fault?</p>	<p>This is a difficult decision for the referees, and there are two possible outcomes for this scenario:</p> <p>If the action of Team B's player #9 was not intentional, 1) it was not a fault, and 2) the referee does not interrupt the rally.</p> <p>If the action of Team B's player #9 was intentional, the referees must interrupt the rally immediately, and 1) the rally is replayed, and 2) Team B's player #9 is sanctioned with a red card (penalty) for rude conduct.</p> <p>Rule 11.1.1, 11.4.4, 14.1.1, 14.3, 21.2.1, 21.3.1</p>
3.39	<p>Team B's back row setter #14 moved to the front zone and tried to set the ball. Their teammate's attack failed, and the ball crossed the net to Team A where player #6 immediately attacked it.</p> <p>After the Team A attack, the ball touched Team B's #14 who had their hands higher than the top of the net but was approximately 50 cm from the net on their side.</p> <p>The 2nd referee whistled the setter for a blocking fault.</p> <p>Was the 2nd referee's decision correct?</p>	<p>The 2nd referee was not correct.</p> <p>If the blocker's hands were not close to the net, it wasn't a block attempt; it was the first touch of Team B.</p> <p>The rally should be replayed.</p> <p>Rule 14.1.1, 14.4.1</p>
3.40	<p>Team B's back row setter #14 moved to the front zone and tried to pass the ball. Their teammate's attack failed, and the ball crossed the net to Team A where player #6 immediately attacked it.</p> <p>After the Team A attack, the ball was touched by Team B's #14 who had their hands close to the net but below the top of it.</p> <p>The referees did not whistle as they decided that the Team B setter did not commit a fault.</p> <p>Were the referees correct?</p>	<p>Yes, the referees were correct.</p> <p>There was no fault committed; the Team B back row player would have committed a fault if their hands, which were close to the net, contacted the ball higher than the top of the net.</p> <p>Rule 14.1.1</p>
3.41	<p>Team A served, and Team B's player #8 blocked the service by reaching beyond the net into the serving team's space, resulting in the ball being grounded in Team A's court. The 1st referee awarded a point and service to Team B.</p> <p>The captain of Team A protested and told the referee that the blocker committed a fault, as they reached beyond the net and could only block in their own space or over the top of the net. The captain also reserved the right to protest the 1st referee's decision.</p> <p>Was the 1st referee's decision correct?</p>	<p>Yes, the 1st referee's decision was correct.</p> <p>According to the sitting volleyball rules, blocking the service is permitted, even in the opponent's space.</p> <p>The game captain can reserve the right to protest the referee's decision and must immediately indicate this to the 1st referee. The 1st referee must allow this. Immediately after the match, the captain can confirm the protest and have it recorded on the scoresheet, or they can withdraw the protest.</p> <p>Rule 5.1.2.1, 14.5, 23.2.4</p>

Case No	Situation	Ruling
3.42	A back row setter who was in the front zone, decided to tip the ball across the net instead of setting the ball to a teammate. During this playing action, the ball was completely higher than the top of the net. Can this ball be blocked by reaching completely over the net?	Yes, this ball can be blocked as it was an attack hit. As soon as the blocker touches the ball, an illegal attack hit was completed by the back row setter. Rule 13.1.1, 13.1.3, 13.2.2, 13.3.3
3.43	On the second hit, a Team A player sets the ball near the net towards the opponent's court. The 1 st referee judged that no Team A player could reach the ball. A blocker from Team B then reached across the plane of the net and blocked the ball. What is the correct decision of the 1 st referee?	Even though it was only Team A's second hit, the ball was headed towards Team B's court and is an attack hit. Since the 1 st referee judged that no Team A player could reach the ball, Team B's block was legal. The 1 st referee would award a point and the service to Team B. Rule 13.1.1, 14.3
3.44	A back row player in the front zone spiked the ball that was completely higher than the top of the net during the second hit of the team. The ball rebounded off the net and did not cross to the opponent. Was this a fault?	No, this was not a fault. Since the ball did not cross the plane or contact the opponent's blockers, the attack hit was not completed. The rally should continue. Rule 9.1, 13.1.3, 13.2.2, 13.3.3
3.45	Is it legal for a blocker to reach beyond the net to block an opponent's setting action?	It is necessary for the 1 st referee to determine the action of the setter. The 1 st referee must know whether the set was: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Made parallel to the net (blocking fault), or • Going towards the net without another player able to complete an attack, thus making it an attack-hit (no fault) Rule 14.1.1, 14.3
3.46	Can an attacker hit the ball coming from the reception of their teammate with both hands using a blocking action to direct the ball to the other side of the net?	Provided that it is not a double contact or a catch/throw, it is a legal play. The contact must be made on the attacker's own side of the net, however, not the opponent's side. Rule 13.1
3.47	The ball made multiple contacts with the head and hands of multiple blockers. Is this permitted?	This is permitted if it is a blocking action and not separate actions. This counts as one block contact. After the block, the team is allowed three more contacts. Rule 9.1, 14.2, 14.4.1
3.48	A blocker's contact with the ball was lower than the top of the net, but part of their hand was above the net. Is this a block?	Yes, this is a block. Having part of the body above the net is the determining factor. Rule 9.1, 14.1.1, 14.4.1

Case No	Situation	Ruling
3.49	<p>During a playing action, there is an illegal attack by a back row player and an attempted Libero block.</p> <p>Which fault occurs first and is penalized?</p>	<p>Per the sitting volleyball rules, the attack hit becomes a fault the moment the ball totally crosses the plane of the net or is touched by the opponent's block.</p> <p>In this case, the Libero's attempt to block occurred before the completion of the attack hit and is considered the first fault. This fault is the one that is penalized.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 19.3.1.3</p>
3.50	<p>After the Team B attack hit, the ball touched the Team A blockers and went towards the Team B free zone partly over the antenna. A Team A player contacted the ball and played it back to their side of the net. The 1st referee whistled and called the ball 'out', awarding the point to Team B.</p> <p>Was the 1st referee's decision correct?</p>	<p>No, the 1st referee's decision was not correct. The ball passed over the antenna into Team B's free zone partially through the external space. Team A can legally return the ball to their court through the external space on the same side of the court.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 10.1.2, 10.1.2.2</p>
3.51 (new)	<p>Back row player's illegal attack versus illegal block (i.e., simultaneous contact by back row player) in the attacker's team space.</p> <p>What is the fault?</p>	<p>Double fault and therefore replay.</p> <p>The attack hit by the back row player was illegal. The simultaneous block by the back row player was also illegal.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 13.3.3, 14.1.1, 14.6.2</p>
3.52 (new)	<p>A back row player is separate in distance from a collective block and lower than the top of the net but is hit by the ball.</p> <p>Is this an illegal block?</p>	<p>No.</p> <p>The player was not part of the collective block and was not higher than the top of the net when the ball contacted them. This contact is considered as a first team hit.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 9.3.1, 14.1.1</p>

CHAPTER 4 – INTERRUPTIONS AND DELAYS

SUBSTITUTIONS

Case No	Situation	Ruling
4.1	<p>Two substitute players entered the substitution zone. After the request was recognized and acknowledged, the coach decided to make only one substitution.</p> <p>What is the correct procedure for the 2nd referee?</p>	<p>This is legal as long as there is no delay. In this case, the 2nd referee carries out a single substitution.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 15.10.2, 15.10.3a, 15.10.4, 16.1</p>
4.2	<p>One substitute player entered the substitution zone while a second substitute was just leaving the warm-up area to enter the substitution zone.</p> <p>How many substitutions should be allowed under the current rules?</p>	<p>Substitution is requested the moment the substitute player enters the substitution zone.</p> <p>In this case, the 2nd referee should grant the first substitution for the player in the zone, with the second substitution rejected as an improper request.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 15.10.3a, 15.10.3b, 15.11.1.3</p>
4.3	<p>A team requested a substitution by sending a player into the substitution zone, but the player was not ready to play (still in track suit). The substitution was rejected. After the substitution was rejected, the team tried to request a second substitution.</p> <p>Is the team allowed to request a second substitution during the same interruption?</p>	<p>No, the team is not allowed to request a second substitution during the same interruption.</p> <p>In this case, the first request was rejected as it was illegal. The team is not allowed to request a second consecutive substitution during the same interruption. At least one rally must be completed before another substitution request can be made by the same team.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 15.2.4</p>
4.4	<p>A player became injured and had to be replaced via an exceptional substitution. During the interruption, the team also requested a regular substitution. The 2nd referee accepted the request.</p> <p>Was the 2nd referee's decision correct?</p>	<p>Yes, the 2nd referee was correct.</p> <p>The first player was replaced via an exceptional substitution due to injury. The team still had the right to request a regular substitution in the same interruption.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 15.7</p>
4.5	<p>Starting player #6 was substituted by player #9, then player #6 substituted back onto the court. Player #6 was then injured and was not able to continue playing.</p> <p>Player #9 and the Libero were on the bench at the time of the injury. Who can be substituted for Player #6?</p>	<p>The player can be replaced via exceptional substitution by any player not on the court, except the Libero or their replacement player.</p> <p>In this case, player #6 can only be exceptionally substituted by player #9. This is recorded on the scoresheet but does not count as one of the six allowed regular substitutions.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 15.7</p>
4.6	<p>A player listed on the line-up sheet was injured before the start of the match. Can they be substituted?</p>	<p>Yes, they can be substituted at the start of the match. The coach must formally request the substitution using the appropriate signal. The regular substitution is recorded on the scoresheet.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 7.3.2, 7.3.4, 15.5</p>

Case No	Situation	Ruling
4.7	Team B had used five substitutions. Two players then entered the substitution zone. What is the 2 nd referee's proper response?	The 2 nd referee has to remind the coach that only one substitution is possible and asks the coach which substitution will be made. Provided that there is no delay, the other substitution will be rejected as an improper request, which is recorded on the scoresheet. Rule 15.5, 15.6, 15.11, 16.1
4.8	A substitute player entered the substitution zone, ready to play, but the starting player on court initially refused to leave the court. Is this a delay, and should the substitution be refused?	This is a special case as the starting player caused the delay; the substitute player did not. It is a delay; however, the substitution should be allowed this time. If the substitute player is not ready and causes a delay, the correct rule application is to reject the substitution and sanction the team for delay. Rule 16.1.1, 23.2.3
4.9	If the line-up sheet does not match the court positions occupied by the players, what should the 2 nd referee do?	The 2 nd referee should show the coach the line-up sheet and ask what they want to do. If the coach wishes to keep the line-up that is on the sheet, the correct players must take their proper place on court without delay. On the other hand, if the coach wishes to keep the line-up that is on the court, the coach needs to make legal substitutions at 0:0. This is one situation where the coach must give the official hand signal to avoid misunderstandings. The 2 nd referee also carries this out formally so that the public understands this situation. Rule 7.3.5
4.10	After the whistle to authorize service, a substitute player entered the substitution zone. The scorer ignored this, the 2 nd referee indicated to the player that they could not enter, and the game did not stop. After the rally ended, the 2 nd referee instructed the scorer to record an improper request on the scoresheet. Was this the correct procedure for the 2 nd referee?	Yes, the 2 nd referee was correct. This is a typical example of an improper request, which must be recorded on the scoresheet. If this was a repeated improper request, a delay sanction must be issued. Rule 15.11.2, 16.1.4
4.11	During a time-out, the team's players were sitting near the bench, but two players were sitting in the substitution zone. The 2 nd referee saw this but did not react. Are the players allowed to sit in the substitution zone, and was the 2 nd referee correct not to react?	No, the players are not allowed to sit in the substitution zone during a time-out. Players must be in the free zone near their bench. The 2 nd referee should politely ask them to move to the free zone near their bench. Rule 15.4.2, 24.2.4

Case No	Situation	Ruling
4.12 (new)	At the control of the line-up, the 2 nd referee detected that the number of the Libero was in the starting line-up. He asked the coach to correct the line-up sheet and informed the scorer about it. Was the procedure correct?	Yes, the procedure was correct. In this case, the 2 nd referee should ask the coach for a new and correct line-up sheet (which can be changed only in the position where the Libero was recorded by mistake). Once the corrected line-up sheet has been checked against the line-up on the court, the 2 nd referee will allow the Libero to enter the court. Rule 7.3.5.2
4.13 (new)	During an interruption, the receiving Team A requested a substitution. During this interruption, Team B was penalized, which caused Team A to rotate one position. After this Team A requested a new substitution. Is this possible?	Yes. Because there was in fact a completed rally (as defined in the rules) between the two requests for substitution. Rule 6.1.3, 15.2.3

TIME-OUTS

Case No	Situation	Ruling
4.14 (new)	Time-out duration is set at 60 seconds. Can this be adjusted?	Yes. The duration of time-outs can be adjusted according to the needs of the competition. If using e-score, the clock can be set accordingly. Rule 15.4.1

IMPROPER REQUESTS

Case No	Situation	Ruling
4.15	Can a team request a substitution before and after a time-out in the same interruption in play?	No. While two time-outs can be called by the same team in the same interruption, two successive substitution requests are not allowed. The second substitution request would be considered an improper request. Rule 15.3.1, 15.3.2, 15.10.3a, 15.11.1.3, 27.2.2.6
4.16	Team A's coach requested a 3 rd time-out in the set; this was rejected by the 2 nd referee. Following the rejection, what is the proper procedure for the referees?	Team A has made an improper request. The 2 nd referee must inform the scorer, and the improper request must be recorded on the scoresheet. The 2 nd referee then informs the 1 st referee and coach. Any further improper requests will be subject to a delay sanction. Rule 15.1, 15.11.1.4

Case No	Situation	Ruling
4.17	The coach is playing on the court, and after the rally asks the 2 nd referee for a time-out. Can the playing coach make this request?	No, the playing coach cannot make this request. Only the game captain has the right to request a time-out in this case. The 2 nd referee must reject this request and instruct the scorer to record an improper request. The 2 nd referee then informs the 1 st referee and game captain about the improper request. Rule 5.1.2.3, 5.3.2, 15.11.1.2
4.18 (new)	Is it possible to have an improper request after the team has already been awarded a delay warning or penalty?	Yes, it is. While unusual, a delay can be followed by an improper request – it is not an escalation of the delay. The rule regarding improper requests and the rule for delay are both quite specific in what constitutes and improper request / delay. Even if the team has already been sanctioned for delay, some actions are only improper requests and are not combined with the earlier delay. Rule 15.5, 16.1

INJURIES

Case No	Situation	Ruling
4.19	Can a player play with a bleeding arm?	No, a player cannot play if they are bleeding. Referees must use discretion if an injury causes bleeding. If immediate medical treatment does not stop the bleeding, the player must be substituted or replaced until the bleeding is stopped and any blood is removed from the player's uniform. A substitute player must be permitted reasonable time to take off their training suit and enter the game without sanction. Rule 4.4, 15.5, 15.10.2, 15.10.3a, 17.1.1 Blood Control Protocol
4.20 (new)	An accident occurs at the moment of a substitution that causes the substitute player's nose to bleed. What is the correct procedure?	First, the referee should request medical assistance. It is necessary to stop the game. If the player cannot recover, the substitution can be cancelled, or another substitute player may be chosen by the team. Since the game has not been resumed, the substitution is not confirmed. Rule 15.2.3, 15.7 Blood Control Protocol

Case No	Situation	Ruling
4.21 (new)	Mid-rally, two Team A players fall to the floor. This probably denies the opposing team from winning the rally. Should the referees stop the rally instantly?	According to the latest guidelines, unless there is a danger of further injury or injury to other players, the referees should pause to determine if there is really an injury before interrupting the rally. Rule 17.1.1, Referee Guidelines and Instructions 2026

GAME DELAYS

Case No	Situation	Ruling
4.22	At official WPV tournaments, a buzzer is typically used for official requests. Team A's coach requested a time-out with the official hand signal but did not use the buzzer. The 2 nd referee authorized the time-out the first time and reminded the coach to use the buzzer for the rest of the match. Later in the set, the coach again requested a time-out using the official hand signal and again did not use the buzzer. Team A started to go to the bench, but the 2 nd referee did not authorize the time out. Was the 2 nd referee correct?	During the first request, the 2 nd referee authorized the time-out without use of the buzzer and reminded the coach that the buzzer is required to request a time-out. The second time-out request was not authorized – the 2 nd referee had reminded the coach to use the buzzer to request future time-outs in the match. If Team A left the court before being authorized, and it causes a delay, it could be sanctioned. The 2 nd referee was correct in both applications – this is the 'art of refereeing'. Rule 15.4.1, 16.1.1, 24.2.4
4.23	Prior to the start of the 3 rd set, the 1 st referee whistled to authorize the teams to enter the court. One team did not respond to the whistle and delayed their return to the court. The 1 st referee issued a delay warning to the team, who then entered the court. Was this the appropriate action by the 1 st referee?	The 1 st referee's action was appropriate. Once summoned, teams must take their positions on the court. If they do not, the 1 st referee issues a delay warning by pointing to their wrist with a yellow card; this sanction is recorded on the scoresheet. If the team still does not take the court, the 1 st referee issues a delay penalty (red card to wrist). If the team still does not take the court, the team can be declared in default, and the match can be forfeited. The same procedure applies to teams who are slow to return to the court following a time-out. Rule 6.4.1, 16.1

Case No	Situation	Ruling
4.24 (new)	A player refused to play because of a wet spot on the floor caused by a team member diving for a ball. What is the proper response of the 1 st referee?	<p>Common sense is the key factor here.</p> <p>It is the 1st referee's responsibility to decide upon the mopping requests by the players, if they are obviously delaying the game, and, if necessary, to issue a delay sanction for these actions.</p> <p>When the 1st referee deems it necessary to mop the floor, they may give the order. The control of the match is always by the decision of the 1st referee.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 1.5, 5.1.2.2, 6.1.4, 16.2</p>
4.25 (new)	What is the correct response of the 1 st referee if spectators interrupt the match?	<p>The 1st referee should stop the match and the organizer or the WPV Technical Delegate should take steps to re-establish order. This interruption should be recorded on the scoresheet.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 17.2, 17.3</p>

CHAPTER 5 – LIBERO

Case No	Situation	Ruling
5.1	<p>Team A's libero left the court and sat down on the floor in front of the bench. The 2nd referee intervened and asked the libero to sit on the bench or go to the warm-up area.</p> <p>Was the 2nd referee correct?</p>	<p>No, the 2nd referee was not correct.</p> <p>Players not taking part in the match must sit in the bench area, on the bench or in the warm-up area.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 1.4.6, 4.2.1, 24.2.4</p>
5.2	<p>Can the libero enter the court without the 2nd referee's permission after the line-up is checked prior to the start of the set?</p>	<p>Yes, as long as the 2nd referee has finished checking the positions of the players of that team. The starting player must be on the court at the time of the position check. As soon as the 2nd referee checks the line-up, the libero may replace a back-row player.</p> <p>The team does not need to start with or use a libero.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 19.3.2.4, 19.3.2.8, 24.3.1</p>
5.3	<p>Player #5 was replaced by the libero, and the libero was subsequently expelled from the set.</p> <p>How can the match proceed following expulsion of the libero?</p>	<p>There are three possible scenarios:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) If the team has two liberos, the coach may replace the expelled libero immediately with the second libero. 2) If the team has only one libero then: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Player #5 can return to the court and the team can play without a libero for the remainder of the set. The coach can redesignate a new libero at a time of their choosing from the players not on the court, or - A new libero can be immediately redesignated from the players not on the court (except the replacement player) and can replace the expelled libero (who cannot play for the remainder of the match). <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 6.4.3, 19.1.1, 19.3.2, 19.3.2.8, 19.4</p>
5.4	<p>A team had only one libero, who entered the court replacing player #4. While diving after a ball, the libero injured themselves and could no longer play. The coach then decided that they wanted player #4 to become the redesignated libero.</p> <p>Is this possible?</p>	<p>Not immediately.</p> <p>The coach may redesignate a new libero from one of the players not on the court (except their replacement player) at the time of injury.</p> <p>If the coach wants player #4 to be the new libero, player #4 first must return to the court and be substituted legally. Player #4 can then be redesignated as the new libero.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 19.1.3, 19.3.2.2, 19.3.2.8, 19.4.2</p>

Case No	Situation	Ruling
5.5	At the end of the rally, the libero was replaced then immediately sent back on the court (no rally between the replacements). Is this permitted?	No, this is not permitted. This is a typical example of an illegal libero replacement. When the second replacement happens, the 2 nd referee should reject it and the 1 st referee should issue a delay sanction. When there is an assistant scorer, it is their duty to check the libero replacements, and the assistant scorer should press the buzzer to indicate the libero replacement error. Rule 19.3.2.1, 24.2.3
5.6	During service reception, the libero used an overhead finger pass to receive the ball when their buttocks were on the attack line. On the next contact, the ball was attacked by a front row player when it was entirely higher than the top of the net. Is there a fault committed?	Yes, there is a fault. A player may not complete an attack hit when the ball is entirely higher than the top of the net when it is coming from an overhead finger pass by the libero in the front zone. The ball may be freely attacked if the libero makes the same playing action from outside the front zone. Rule 19.3.1.4
5.7	During a stoppage in play, player #8 who was playing in the back zone left the court and was replaced by the libero. The coach immediately realized that this was an unintended replacement and that player #8 should be on the court for the next rally. The libero went back to the bench and player #8 returned to the court (the replacement was not yet recorded on the libero control sheet). Should these exchanges be considered as illegal replacements?	Per the rules, libero replacements must be done after at least one completed rally. In this case, this was a mistake which was corrected immediately, and the replacement was not recorded on the libero control sheet. It cannot be considered as an illegal replacement. If, on the other hand, the duration between the player exchanges was too long, the second replacement must be rejected and treated as an illegal replacement. The 1 st referee makes the decision in this case. Rule 19.3.2.1
5.8 (new)	The team had two liberos recorded. After the 2 nd set the coach declared both liberos unable to play and redesignated one new libero to replace them. Is this allowed?	Yes, it is allowed. It is not forbidden to declare both liberos unable to play at the same time. None of the original liberos may re-enter the match after the redesignation, but they have the right to sit on the bench or to be in the warm-up area. Rule 19.4.2.1, 19.4.2.2
5.9 (new)	The libero came off the court. The server was whistled for a delay in service (8 seconds). Can the libero now re-enter the court?	Yes, they can. This service (fault) is to be considered as a competed rally. Therefore, the libero will be allowed to re-enter the court. Rule 6.1.3, 19.3.2, 19.3.2.1

Case No	Situation	Ruling
5.10 (new)	The team captain was injured while on the court and had to be substituted. The coach requested that the libero become the new game captain. Is this permitted?	This is permitted. According to the rules, libero(s) may become team or game captain. Rule 5



CHAPTER 6 – PARTICIPANT CONDUCT

Case No	Situation	Ruling
6.1	<p>Substitute player #5 stood in front of the team bench and loudly argued the 1st referee's decision. The 1st referee considered this rude conduct and immediately showed a red card to player #5.</p> <p>Was the 1st referee's decision correct?</p>	<p>Yes, the 1st referee's decision was correct. The procedure to give the sanction, however, was incorrect.</p> <p>The 1st referee should call the game captain over and state 'I give player #5 a penalty for rude conduct.' The game captain must inform the player (#5) who must stand, if possible, and raise their hand. At this moment, the 1st referee displays the red card visibly to everyone.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 20.1.2, 21.1, 21.2.1, 21.3.1, 23.3.2.2</p>
6.2	<p>During a very tight match, with Team A leading 24:23, the 1st referee decided to sanction two players with red cards – one from Team A and one from Team B.</p> <p>What is the procedure in this situation?</p>	<p>If the score was 24:23 and the 1st referee decided to sanction two players (one from each team) with a red card, the score after the application of the sanctions should be 25:24 for Team A. The scorer should record both sanctions on the scoresheet with a score of 24:23.</p> <p>It is not important which player was penalized first.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 6.2, 21.3.1, 21.6</p>
6.3	<p>The 1st referee warned a player for stage 2 minor misconduct by showing the player a yellow card. The yellow card to the player was recorded on the scoresheet.</p> <p>Was the action of the 1st referee correct?</p>	<p>Yes, the 1st referee was correct.</p> <p>Minor misconduct must be controlled by the 1st referee. The 1st referee may give a verbal warning to the team via the game captain (stage 1) if the minor misconduct is general in nature. Depending on the seriousness of the minor misconduct, the referee can start with stage 2, showing a yellow card directly to the concerned player or team member not on the court through the game captain.</p> <p>The 1st referee has the authority to go directly to issuance of sanctions depending on the seriousness of the offence.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 21.1, 21.2</p>

Case No	Situation	Ruling
6.4	<p>A player was expelled without being previously sanctioned.</p> <p>How should the 1st referee treat subsequent minor misconduct from any other member of the same team?</p>	<p>The 1st referee normally tries to prevent a team from reaching the sanctioning level.</p> <p>However, should a clear case of offensive conduct be committed as a first action, the 1st referee must expel the player (red and yellow cards shown jointly) without a previous sanction.</p> <p>After the expulsion, the 1st referee may issue a warning to any other team member but once the official stage 2 warning (yellow card) is given to the team, no further warnings may be given.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 21</p>
6.5	<p>A player stood up after a successful attack hit and was celebrating it with two hands up towards the opponent's court.</p> <p>Was this behavior by the player acceptable?</p>	<p>Participants must behave respectfully and courteously towards the opponents in the spirit of fair play.</p> <p>The 1st referee may give a verbal warning to the team via the game captain if the minor misconduct is general in nature and it was the first instance in the match for the team. If the player's behavior exceeds minor misconduct, other sanctions may be applied and are recorded on the scoresheet.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 20.2.1, 21.1</p>
6.6	<p>A player behaved in an unsportsmanlike manner on the court. The 1st referee decided to warn the player with a yellow card. The 1st referee directed the game captain to their position, and through the captain sanctioned the offending player with a yellow card.</p> <p>Was the procedure of the application of the sanction by the 1st referee correct?</p>	<p>No, the procedure was not correct.</p> <p>When a sanctioned player is on the court, the 1st referee calls the player to their position and shows a yellow card.</p> <p>If the sanctioned team member is on the bench or in the warm-up area, the 1st referee calls the game captain to their position and sanctions the team member through the captain.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 21.1</p>
6.7	<p>The 2nd referee instructed Team B to move closer to the team bench during a time-out. The coach started to loudly argue and disagreed about the players having to move.</p> <p>The 2nd referee informed the 1st referee about the coach's behavior; the 1st referee did not react, and the match continued.</p> <p>Was the decision of the 1st referee correct?</p>	<p>No, the 1st referee's decision was not correct.</p> <p>The participant's behavior should be respectful and courteous, including towards the referees. While the coach should be allowed to express certain normal things, the referees should not ignore this behavior.</p> <p>If the response is judged to be minor misconduct reaching stage 2, the coach should be warned by the 1st referee with a yellow card. If repeated, the coach should be sanctioned with a red card for rude conduct.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 15.4.2, 20.2.1, 21.1, 21.2, 24.2.4</p>

Case No	Situation	Ruling
6.8 (new)	Player number 5 was expelled from the set. Where does this player go after leaving the court?	The expelled player must return to the team dressing room (escorted by the Reserve Referee) for the duration of the set in progress. After the end of the set, this player must return to the competition area. Rule 21.3.2.1
6.9 (new)	A player moved towards the 1 st referee gesturing wildly and shouting at them even after a warning. How should the 1 st referee consider this action?	This should be regarded as Offensive Conduct, and sanctioned by Expulsion, red and yellow cards shown jointly. Rule 21.1, 21.2, 21.3

CHAPTER 7 – REFEREES AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES

Case No	Situation	Ruling
7.1	<p>Before authorizing service for Team B, the 1st referee did not look at the receiving team (Team A), then whistled. Right before the whistle, Team A's player #8 was injured; the 1st referee did not see the injury because they only looked at the serving team. Team B's server directed the ball to Team A's player #8, who was unable to play the ball.</p> <p>What should be the procedure in this case?</p>	<p>In this situation, the rally must be replayed. Before the whistle to authorize serve, the 1st referee must look at both teams to check that they are ready to play. In this case, the 1st referee did not look at the receiving team.</p> <p>The 2nd referee, who is observing the receiving team during the service hit, must immediately whistle to stop play due to injury.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 12.3</p>
7.2	<p>During time-outs, the 2nd referee looked at the assistant scorer and waited for their hand signals to determine if the liberos were on or off court. The assistant scorer did not show any hand signals, even after the 2nd referee asked a few times.</p> <p>What should the 2nd referee do during and after the match in this case?</p>	<p>One of the duties of the assistant scorer is to show whether the liberos are on or off court during time-outs.</p> <p>The 2nd referee should remind the assistant scorer of this duty.</p> <p>If there is still no activity by the assistant scorer, the 2nd referee should inform the Jury Member during the match. The situation can be discussed with the Referee Delegate after the match.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 28.2.1.1, 28.2.2.2, 28.2.2.3</p>
7.3	<p>Team B's back row player #5 attacked the ball from position 1. The ball hit the top horizontal band of the net approximately 0.5 m outside the antenna near the 2nd referee.</p> <p>Which referee should whistle this fault?</p>	<p>The 2nd referee should whistle this fault.</p> <p>According to rule 24.3.2.7, if the ball crosses the net totally or partly outside of the crossing space to the opponent's court or contacts the antenna on the 2nd referee's side of the court, the 2nd referee must whistle the fault.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 24.3.2.7</p>
7.4	<p>The 2nd referee asked a coach not to talk with or distract the scorer.</p> <p>Is this a correct action by the 2nd referee?</p>	<p>Yes, this is a correct action by the 2nd referee.</p> <p>If such situations can be resolved by the 2nd referee without formality, this can be done; this is the 'art of refereeing'.</p>
7.5	<p>Can a captain make a formal protest on the scoresheet if they have not notified the referees of their intention during the match?</p>	<p>If at the time of any incident, the game captain has made no mention of a protest, they cannot make a formal written protest on the scoresheet at the end of the match.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 5.1.2.1, 5.1.3.2, 23.2.4</p>
7.6	<p>The assistant coach came to the sideline to help the players find a wet spot on the court. The 1st referee called the game captain and told them to tell the assistant coach to stay on the bench.</p> <p>Was the 1st referee's decision correct?</p>	<p>Yes, the 1st referee was correct.</p> <p>The assistant coach is allowed to sit on the bench and may not intervene in the match. Only the coach may walk near the sideline.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 5.2.3.4, 5.3.1</p>

Case No	Situation	Ruling
7.7	A team is playing in a WPV competition, and the team captain does not speak English. The captain and another player acting as a translator approached the 1 st referee a few times and asked for an explanation and interpretation of the rules. Should the 1 st referee accept the behavior of these players?	No, the 1 st referee should not accept the behavior. Only the game captain can talk with the 1 st referee to ask for explanation and interpretation of rules; at WPV competitions, this must be in English. Rule 5.1.2.1, 23.2.4
7.8	During an interruption, the 1 st referee used hand gestures from across the court to explain to the Team B coach why they decided to award a point to Team A. Was the conduct of the 1 st referee appropriate?	No. The 1 st referee should give a verbal explanation to the game captain, if asked. Rule 23.2.4
7.9	During the competition, all playing courts had low quality taped lines, and the lines were often broken or rolled up. Referees often stopped matches and technical personnel repaired the court.	Taped lines can be problematic for players and the referee team. If referees see that a line is broken, the match should be stopped and the line repaired. If a line is a little rolled up, play should continue; the line can be repaired during a time-out or set interval. If the 1 st referee decides that a rolled-up line affects the officiating, the 1 st referee should stop the match and have the line repaired immediately. Rule 1.3.2, 23.2.3, 23.3.1.1
7.10 (new)	Can a refereeing decision be reversed even after the end of a set?	Yes. Up to the start of the next set, referees are allowed to correct their decisions immediately concerning the application of the rules, if they realize they were mistaken. The match score will be corrected as appropriate.
7.11 (new)	After a request for a third time-out was refused as an improper request, the coach changed their mind and sent a player for substitution. Is this allowed?	Provided there was no whistle for service, the request for substitution should be allowed as proper – only the time-out request was improper. The improper request should be recorded on the scoresheet. Rule 15.1, 15.2.1, 15.11, 16.1, 16.2, 24.2.6, 24.2.7
7.12 (new)	During a time-out a coach met with their entire team in the very back corner of the free zone near the warm-up area. Is this permitted?	The must 'go to the free zone near their bench' during a time-out and the 2 nd referee should politely tell the team to do so. Rule 15.4.2

CHAPTER 8 – SPECIAL CASES

Case No	Situation	Ruling
8.1	<p>The players are standing near the sidelines of the court, preparing to enter the court for presentation before the start of the match. Team A stands next to the first referee in this order: 8 (captain), 2 (active libero), 12, 1, 10, 6, 3, 7, 9, 5, 11, 4 (second libero).</p> <p>Is this correct, or should the players stand in numerical order?</p>	<p>Per the rules, the team captain stands nearest to the 1st referee, then the active libero, with the second libero standing at the end. The positions of the other players are not important, and players can freely stand in any numerical order.</p>
8.2	<p>During the match, Team B's player #6 is in the service zone and waiting for the 1st referee to whistle to authorize service. The 1st referee notices a green point from a spectator's laser device on the player's forehead.</p> <p>Should the 1st referee whistle for service in this situation?</p>	<p>No, the 1st referee should not whistle.</p> <p>In this situation, if a spectator uses a laser device on a player, the 1st referee should stop the game and via the 2nd referee should inform the Jury Member. The Jury Member must ask the announcer to inform the spectators that laser devices should not be used on the players. The referees can resume the match after confirmation from the TD or Jury.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 23.2.3</p>
8.3	<p>During the warm-up session, water drops fell from the ceiling to position 4 on the court, causing the court to be wet.</p> <p>What should the referees do in this case?</p>	<p>The match cannot start in this case.</p> <p>The referees should immediately inform the Jury Member and organizers, who will then decide what measures are to be taken to re-establish normal conditions. Once normal conditions are established, the referees must wait until the Jury gives permission to start the match.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 1.2.1, 17.2, 17.3.1, 23.2.3</p>
8.4	<p>During the national championships, the referees inspected the competition hall, and noticed that the antennae were on the same side of the net. The organizers informed the referees that one of the antennae cannot be changed because the net has special pockets for the antennae that are on the same side of the net.</p> <p>What should the referees do in this case?</p>	<p>According to the rules, the antennae should be fastened on opposite sides of the net. The referees should ask the organizers to take one antenna out of the special pocket and fasten it to the other side of the net.</p> <p>If there is a Jury Member, the referees inform the Jury Member and await their decision.</p> <p>Referees should help organizers prepare the court according to the rules at all competitions.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 2.4</p>

Case No	Situation	Ruling
8.5	<p>During the 5th set, the score reached 8:6 and the teams changed court. During the court change, the moppers started to mop the floor, so the 2nd referee decided to ask the teams to go near their benches in the free zone.</p> <p>Was the 2nd referee's decision correct?</p>	<p>No, the 2nd referee's decision was not correct.</p> <p>During the court change, there is no floor mopping. When the teams change court in the middle of the 5th set, the teams go immediately back onto the court.</p> <p>If the moppers start to mop, the referees must stop them and ask them to leave the court immediately.</p> <p>The 2nd referee must then check the positions of both teams and the match must continue.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 23.2.2, 27.2.2.5</p>
8.6	<p>After the end of the match, the players of both teams went to the end lines. The referee team (1st, 2nd, and line judges) stood near the 1st referee post. The players shook hands and thanked the referees along the net.</p> <p>Should the line judges stand near the 1st and 2nd referees after the match near the 1st referee post?</p>	<p>According to the WPV Referee Guidelines, only the 1st and 2nd referees stand near the 1st referee post.</p> <p>The line judges should go to the scorer's table after the match.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Referee Guidelines and Instructions 2026</p>
8.7 (new)	<p>Team B intentionally slowed down the tempo of the game. How should the referee respond?</p>	<p>The referee should keep the game at a constant tempo within the normal flow of the game. The referee should never allow any external influences to slow the flow of a match and ruin the good performance of one of the teams.</p>
8.8 (new)	<p>The match was resumed on another playing court after the lights failed.</p> <p>What is the correct ruling on the use of a disqualified player in the third set when it starts again?</p>	<p>The interrupted set must be cancelled and replayed with the same team members and the same starting line-ups but neither disqualified nor expelled players are allowed to participate. Another player who was on the team and not in the starting line-up must take their place.</p> <p>Furthermore, all other warnings/sanctions which have been recorded on the scoresheet up to the point that the lights went out must be carried over into the new set.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 17.3.2.2</p>

CHAPTER 9 – USING TECHNOLOGY CASES

Case No	Situation	Ruling
9.1	Are communication devices allowed for the coaches during the match?	Yes, the use of these devices is allowed.
9.2	A substitution was requested by a team by transmitting the data by tablet, then sending the player into the substitution zone. Because the player was not ready to play (track suit), the substitution was rejected. As soon as substitution was rejected, the team requested the substitution again. Is the team allowed to make this second request during the same interruption?	The substitution was not legal and therefore was not allowed. As the first request for substitution was rejected, the team is not authorized to request a second consecutive substitution in the same interruption. At least one rally must be completed before there can be another substitution request by the same team. However, a penalty awarded against either team at this moment counts as a completed rally. Rule 15.3.2
9.3	A player became injured and had to be substituted exceptionally. During the same game interruption, the team transmitted data and sent a player into the substitution zone (i.e., they requested an additional substitution during the interruption). The 2 nd referee accepted the request. Was the 2 nd referee's decision to accept the request correct?	Yes, the 2 nd referee's decision was correct. The first player had to be substituted by an exceptional substitution due to injury. The team still had the right to request a substitution in the same interruption. Rule 15.7
9.4	A player arrived in the substitution zone correctly after a completed rally, but no data had been transmitted. How is this handled?	The official request for substitution is when the substitute player(s) enter the substitution zone. Therefore, the scorer, before any action, should check if the request is legal. If the request is legal, the scorer should accept the request manually. If the request is illegal, it should be rejected and the referees have to follow the respective rules. Rule 15.5.1, 16.1.3
9.5 (new)	A player listed on the line-up transmitted by the team was injured before the start of the match. What happens with the electronic scoresheet?	Transmitted line-ups count in the same way as a written and signed line-up sheet. Therefore, the player may be replaced but this would count as a substitution, unless special rules are applied for the given event. Rule 7.3.2, 7.3.4

