



RULES OF THE GAME VOLLEYBALL CASEBOOK

2016 Edition

Compiled and Prepared
by the FIVB Rules of the Game Commission

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INDEX

Page	Topic of Rulings	Cases
2	INDEX	
3	PREFACE - MODIFICATIONS	
4	PART I - THEORETICAL PRINCIPLES OF APPLICATION	
5	PART II - CASES	
5	CHAPTER 1 - PARTICIPANTS	
5	Wearing Forbidden Objects	1.1 – 1.2
5	Captain	1.3 – 1.7
6	Coach	1.8 – 1.13
7	CHAPTER 2 - PLAYING FORMAT	
7	The Toss	2.1
7	Positional and Rotational Faults	2.2 – 2.7
8	CHAPTER 3 - PLAYING ACTIONS	
8	Playing the Ball	3.1 – 3.10.2
10	Penetration Under the Net	3.11 – 3.12
11	Player at or contacting the Net	3.13 – 3.22
13	Service	3.23 – 3.29
14	Attack Hit	3.30 – 3.34
15	Block	3.35 – 3.46
17	CHAPTER 4 - INTERRUPTIONS AND DELAYS	
17	Substitutions	4.1 – 4.22
21	Time-Out and Technical Time-Out	4.23 – 4.24
21	Improper requests	4.25 - 4.26
22	Injuries	4.27 – 4.29.2
23	Delays to the Game	4.30 – 4.33
25	External Interference	4.34 – 4.36
26	CHAPTER 5 - LIBERO	5.1 – 5.24
31	CHAPTER 6 - PARTICIPANTS' CONDUCT	6.1 – 6.9
34	CHAPTER 7 - REFEREES AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES	7.1 – 7.12
36	CHAPTER 8 - SPECIAL CASES	8.1 – 8.5
37	CHAPTER 9 - EXTENDED CASES	9.1 - 9.27
47	CHAPTER 10 – USING TABLET CASES	10.1 – 10.8
49	APPENDIX	Case numbers and concerning rules

PREFACE

Volleyball is a great game – just ask the millions of people who play it, watch it, analyze it and referee it. It has been actively promoted in recent years and has developed tremendously as a top competitive sport. Increased excitement, speed, explosive action, a clean healthy image and huge TV audience figures have created an impetus to develop the game even further, to make it simpler and more attractive to an even wider range of viewing public.

However, to make a correct and uniform application of these rules on a world stage is also very important for the further development of the game. This Casebook is a collection of plays with Official Rulings approved by the Rules of the Game Commission and based upon 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 sanctioned competitions.

This is the third “short edition” of the Casebook but is nevertheless based upon the same 2013-2016 edition of the Rules Text whose mandate was approved by the FIVB Congress at Anaheim, USA, in September 2012 and by the rules modifications approved by the Congress at Cagliari (Italy) in October 2014.

Sandy Steel
President, FIVB Rules of the Game Commission

MODIFICATIONS BETWEEN 2015 and 2016 VERSION

New cases

3.10.3	3.22.1	3.22.2	4.22.2	4.26.2	4.29.3	4.36
7.11	7.12	9.27	10.1 to 10.8 (using tablet)			

Deleted

no one

Modified (c=completed and w=wording)

2.7(c)	4.2(c)	5.1(w)	5.11(w)	5.24(c)	9.16(w)
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Renumbered cases

3.22 → 3.22.1	4.22 → 4.22.1	4.26 → 4.26.1
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PART I - THEORETICAL PRINCIPLES OF APPLICATION

The referee is the one who puts the rules into practice. For the correct application of the rules, the referees have to know the rules faultlessly and apply them decisively and correctly within the context of the game. Rule 23.2.3 states, “The referee has the power to decide any matter involving the game, including those not provided for in the rules”. Only on the basis of full acquisition of the fundamental principles of formulation and application of the rules can this be done.

Remember 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 CASEBOOK 2016 EDITION

The 2016 Casebook is a reflection of the rules, which were put into effect by the 2012 and 2014 FIVB Congress. While other rules 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 the rules in force *today*.

A new chapter has been added, since the FIVB is using electronic devices for top competition. (tablet)

In the appendix the case numbers are listed together with the corresponding rules.
The case numbers are linked with the cases.

PART II - CASES

CHAPTER 1 – PARTICIPANTS

WEARING FORBIDDEN OBJECTS

<p>1.1 A prosthetic leg, a leg support, a plaster cast for a damaged wrist. Is such a device allowed?</p>	<p>Ruling Some yes – provided that the device will not cause undue risk to the player or the other players in the game, or in the case of the forearm support will not provide additional control of the ball. However the rules allow a player to wear compressing devices for injury protection. For FIVB, World and Official competitions their colour should be according to the respective part of the uniform, i.e. pads on arms should be the same colour as the jersey; respectively pads worn under the shorts should be coloured the same as the shorts. Rules 4.5.1, 4.5.3</p>
<p>1.2 Is a player allowed to play wearing a ring likely to cause injury?</p>	<p>Ruling Due to the risk of injury a player must remove her ring, or have it taped. Rule 4.5.1</p>
<h4>CAPTAIN</h4>	
<p>1.3 What is the proper response by the 1st referee if a game captain constantly questions 1st referee decisions?</p>	<p>Ruling Beyond the limits of Rule 5.1.2, he should warn the game captain with no penalty, as stated in Rule 21.1. If the behaviour continues, the game captain should be sanctioned for rude conduct with a red card (point and service to the opponents). Rules 5.1.2, 20.1, 20.2, 21.2, 21.3.1, Diagram 9</p>
<p>1.4 Is it permitted to verify the positions of players to a game captain?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes. However, the right to make this request may not be abused by a team, and only detailed information about his/her own team may be provided. For the opponent team he can only be told “they are correct.” Rule 5.1.2.2</p>
<p>1.5 The game captain asked the 1st referee for a line-up check of the opponents. Is this allowed?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes but the only information that will be provided to the opponents will be whether or not the players are correctly positioned. No information will be given about which players are front or back row players. Rule 5.1.2.2</p>

<p>1.6 How does the game captain legally and politely request the 1st referee to ask a line judge if he signalled a fault?</p>	<p>Ruling At the end of the rally, the game captain may raise one hand to request an explanation for the interpretation of the judgment. The 1st referee must honour the request. Rules 5.1.2.1, 20.2.1</p>
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<p>1.7 Is the referee's decision final? May he/she change his/her own decision if the team protests?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes. On the other hand, the teams are not allowed to protest against normal referee decisions. Rules 5.1.2.1, 23.2.4</p>
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COACH

<p>1.8 Are communication devices allowed for the coaches during the game?</p>	<p>Ruling The use of such devices is allowed.</p>
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<p>1.9 Are coaches permitted to talk to the 2nd referee during the match about decisions or protests?</p>	<p>Ruling According to Rule 5.1.2, only the game captain is authorized to speak to the referees to request explanations. The coach is not authorized to do so. Rules 5.1.2, 5.2.3.4, 21.1, 21.2, 21.3</p>
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<p>1.10 May the assistant coach or player press the buzzer for T/O?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes – but the coach must still give the official hand signal. Rules 5.2.1, 5.2.3.3, 5.3.1</p>
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<p>1.11 May the assistant coach or others also stand/ move in the free zone during the match?</p>	<p>Ruling The rules allow only the coach to move freely in the free zone, between the extension of the attack line and the warm-up area. Rules 5.2.3.2, 5.2.3.4, 5.3.1</p>
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<p>1.12 Where may the coach move during the match?</p>	<p>Ruling 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. The coach has no right to enter the court to carry out coaching functions. If the coach tries to go beyond those limits he/she should be warned via the game captain. Rule 5.2.3.4</p>
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<p>1.13 Can the coach if injured or disabled be allowed to use crutches in the free zone to perform his duties during the match?</p>	<p>Ruling To stand or walk with crutches is not forbidden for the coach.</p>
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THE TOSS

<p>2.1 What are the possibilities for a team winning the toss?</p>	<p>Ruling The winner of the toss has the following options:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. to serve, 2. to receive the service, <p style="text-align: center;">or</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. to choose the side of the court, <p>The opponent takes the remaining option.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 7.1.2</p>
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POSITIONAL AND ROTATIONAL FAULTS

<p>2.2 The team's setter from position 1 was standing clearly in front of player position 2, but jumped at the moment before the service hit. Is this legal position?</p>	<p>Ruling Fault. When players jump from the floor, they retain the position that they had from their last contact with the floor. Therefore, while the back row player was in the air, the point of his last contact with the floor was retained.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 7.4, 7.4.2, 7.4.3</p>
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<p>2.3 The centre back player had a hand on the floor clearly in front of the feet of his front row player at the time the ball was contacted for service. He/she had both feet behind the front foot of the centre front player. Is this a legal position for the receiving team?</p>	<p>Ruling Legal position. Only the feet which are in contact with the floor are considered when determining whether players make a positional fault. (except for situation in case 2.2)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 7.4.3, 7.5</p>
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<p>2.4 If a player's foot is in contact with the opponent court at service hit, is this a fault?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes -fault because at the moment of the service hit all players must be within their own court. There is a difference between playing court (18x9) and court (9x9). Players must be within their own court at the service hit and that includes being on, or completely on their own side, of the centre line.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 1.3.3, 7.4</p>
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<p>2.5 After the service hit, the scorer announced the fault of the incorrect server. What happens now?</p>	<p>Ruling Service goes to opponents (who rotate); team at fault corrects positions. Any points scored when at fault are cancelled.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 7.7.1, 23.2.3</p>
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<p>2.6 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?</p>	<p>Ruling The teams must revert to as close to their original line-up as possible. The score reverts to the point where the wrong information was given. T/O and T/O and sanctions remain valid. These events must be recorded on the score sheet.</p>
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<p>2.7 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. What should have occurred?</p>	<p>Ruling The 1st referee should whistle for service when he/she is sure that the teams are ready to play and that the server is in possession of the ball. Because the 1st referee noticed the mistake <i>before</i> he/she whistle for service, he/she must award a delay sanction to the team at fault. The next team to serve depends on the <u>type of delay sanction</u>. But if the 1st referee still whistled for service when only 5 or 7 players were on court, he/she must stop the rally immediately and replay without any sanction. 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. Rules 7.5, 7.7, 12.3, 12.4.3</p>
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CHAPTER 3 – PLAYING ACTIONS

PLAYING THE BALL

<p>3.1 The 1st hit flew outside of the antenna. The setter pursued the ball into the opponent’s free zone and tried to play it back – but the ball went towards the court and net on the opponent’s side. The 1st referee whistled and signalled “ball out”. At what moment does the ball become “out”?</p>	<p>Ruling This ball had become “out” when it had left completely the space above the free zone and entered the space above the court on the opponent’s side of the net. The ball would also have been out if it had hit an opponent player in the free zone, so long as he/she was not attempting to prevent an opponent’s return of the ball to the other side of the net. Rules 10.1.2, 10.1.2.2</p>
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<p>3.2 Can a player legally hit the ball with the palm of one hand up?</p>	<p>Ruling The hit must be judged by the quality of the ball contact – i.e. is it a soft or hard rebound or whether or not the ball was caught and/or thrown. The 1st referee must not be too hasty in whistling this play unless he can clearly see that the ball is caught and/or thrown. Rules 9.2.1, 9.2.2, 9.3.3, 9.3.4</p>
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<p>3.3 During a first hit the ball rebounded from one arm to the other and then onto the chest of a player during one action and without being caught or thrown. The 1st referee allowed the game to continue. Is this correct?</p>	<p>Ruling The decision of the 1st referee was correct. “First hit” cases, in which successive contacts are allowed, are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reception of the service. 2. Reception of an attack hit. This can be either a soft or a hard attack. 3. Reception of a ball blocked by one’s own team. 4. Reception of a ball blocked by the opponent. <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 9.2.3.2, 14.2</p>
<p>3.4 After a block, can a player double contact the ball if in one action?</p>	<p>Ruling A blocker has the right to make successive contacts <i>after</i> a block, so long as she makes only one action to play the ball. It is possible, however, to whistle a “catch” or “throw” on the first hit if two different phases (first catch, then throw) are recognised within the action.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 9.2.2, 9.2.3.2, 14.2</p>
<p>3.5 A blocker “redirected” the ball to the floor of the opponents. Is this legal?</p>	<p>Ruling 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. The illegal contact of “catch” can be whistled during blocking.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 9.2.2</p>
<p>3.6 A player jumped into the air trying to retrieve the ball near the spectator seats. After contacting the ball, he/she landed in the seats. Is this a legal action?</p>	<p>Ruling Legal play. Outside his/her own side of the free zone, a player is allowed to play a ball and even take support to hit the ball. This would include his/her own team bench since this is outside the free zone.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 9, 9.1.3</p>
<p>3.7 During a rally, a player chased the ball into the spectator stands. Just as she was about to hit the ball, a spectator reached up to catch the ball. The coach requested a replay because of the spectator’s interference. The referee refused. Was this a correct decision of the 1st referee?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes. The player is allowed to retrieve the ball from anywhere outside her own side of the playing area, including the team bench/ spectator seats, etc. On the other hand, while the player has priority for the ball within the playing area, she has no such priority outside of the playing area.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules9, 9.1.3</p>
<p>3.8 Must the 1st referee whistle for a handling fault if the player is making a spectacular recovery?</p>	<p>Ruling The referee should consider the principle of “keep the ball flying”. It means, if a player makes a quick movement and a big effort to recover the ball, and during the hit a slight double contact has occurred, he/she must be less severe, than in a normal situation</p>

<p>3.9 A ball went off the blocker A's head, <u>over the antenna into the free zone of 'B'</u>. A player of 'A' pursued the ball to play it back to his side of the net. Is it possible to play it back like this?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes. The ball passed over the antenna into the opponent's free zone partially through the external space. Therefore it was legal for team 'A' to return the ball to its own court through the external space on the same side of the court. Line judges should not signal while the ball moves in this way until the moment it is finally out of play.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 10.1.2</p>
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<p>3.10.1 Should the line judge signal when after the second hit of a team the ball crosses the net plane through the external space into the opponent's free zone?</p>	<p>Ruling No. This ball could legally be played back with the 3rd hit of the team (or some fault could occur with opponents). It therefore remains in play.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 8.4.1, 8.4.2, 9.1, 10.1.2, 10.1.2.1, 10.1.2.2</p>
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<p>3.10.2 Team A's setter hit the ball above the net so that at the moment of the hit his/her fingers were in the opponent's space. After the set the ball flew parallel to the net toward an attacker. The blocker of team B touched the ball in team's A space, so that the team A player could not execute the attack hit. How should the 1st referee decide?</p>	<p>Ruling 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 setter has hit the ball in the opponent's space, the setter committed a fault. The blocker also committed a fault by touching the ball in the opponent's space before the attack hit. However, only the first fault is penalized.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 9</p>
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<p>3.10.3 (new) May the coach standing in a legal position in his/her free zone catch the ball flying over the antenna, when an opponent player is running to replay it?</p>	<p>Ruling No. Any team member, including the coach, has no right to prevent an opponent player from replaying the ball crossing the net plane outside the crossing space. It does not matter if the action of the team member to hit the ball was intentional or unintentional. It means, that the coach standing legally in his/her free zone must "give way" if an opponent player is running to replay and return the ball.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 10.1.2.2.</p>
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PENETRATION UNDER THE NET

<p>3.11 A spiker landed with his heels on the centre line, but with most of his feet <i>on the feet of the opponent's blocker preventing his ability to move</i>. Is this interference?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes. Rule 11.2.1 states, "It is permitted to penetrate into the opponent's space under the net, provided that this does not interfere with the opponent's play." Interference means a player stops an opponent from moving, or playing the ball, or disturbing the opponent while attempting to play the ball.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 11.2.1, 11.2.2.1, 11.2.4</p>
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<p>3.12 Is physical contact always interference?</p>	<p>Ruling No, many contacts actually occur in a match - but the 2nd referee should whistle an attacker if he/she interfered with or stopped the opponent's ability to play.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 11.2.1</p>
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PLAYER AT OR CONTACTING THE NET

<p>3.13 A setter slightly touched the mesh of the net between the antennae as he/she was in the action of playing the ball. The referee whistled this net contact. Was the decision correct?</p>	<p>Ruling The decision was correct. According to the rules this is a net fault. Contact with the net, between the antennae, during the action of playing the ball is a fault.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 11.3.1, 11.4.4</p>
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<p>3.14 The setter reached above and beyond the plane of the net and set the ball, so that his/her attacker could make an attack hit. The 1st referee whistled the play as a fault. Is this play illegal?</p>	<p>Ruling The decision of the 1st referee was correct. Above the top of the net, a player must contact the ball on his own side (except if blocking). A similar play under the net is different. Here the play is illegal only if the ball has completely crossed the vertical plane of the net.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 9, 11.2.1</p>
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<p>3.15 After a simultaneous contact above the plane of the net, the ball landed outside the court of team A. Who gets next service?</p>	<p>Ruling If the contact is truly simultaneous by opponents, and the ball lands outside a court, it is the fault of the team on the opposite side. Team A get service.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 9.1.2.2, 9.1.2.3</p>
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<p>3.16 An attack hit drove the net into the blocker's forearms. Is this a net fault?</p>	<p>Ruling If the net hits the blocker, there is no fault. On the other hand, if the blocker hits the net between antennae during this action, he/she commits a fault.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 11.3.1, 11.4.4</p>
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<p>3.17 After a blocker landed securely, he turned and hit the mesh of the net between the antennae with his shoulder. Should this have been called a fault?</p>	<p>Ruling No. Because the action of playing the ball was complete before he/she turned, the contact with the net is not a fault.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 11.3.1, 11.4.4</p>
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<p>3.18 The attacker from Team A hit the ball from position 4, as an opponent player (having been confused by a fake attack) hit the net in Team's A position 2. Is this a net fault?</p>	<p>Ruling No, contact with the net between the antennae during the action of playing the ball is the fault – since the opponent was not near the ball, he/she did <u>not</u> commit a fault.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 11.3.1, 11.4.4</p>
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<p>3.19 While attempting to block, but without touching the ball, which was close to him, the blocker touched the net. Is this a fault?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes – since this is “in the action” of playing or attempting to play the ball, even though no contact was made. Rules 11.3.1, 11.4.4</p>
<p>3.20 A middle blocker reached over the net and touched its top band while attempting to stop a combination play close to him. Is this a fault?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes – the touch of the net was indeed a “net fault”: the blocker was close to the action, and the contact was between the antennae. Rules 11.3.1, 11.4.4</p>
<p>3.21.1 An attacker landed securely on the floor then took two steps and brushed against the net outside of the antenna while the ball was still in play. Is this a fault?</p>	<p>Ruling No the player did not commit a fault because,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • he/she has already finished the action of playing the ball • he/she did not use the net as support or stabilizing aid, and • the contact was outside the antenna <p>Rules 11.3.1, 11.3.2, 11.4.4</p>
<p>3.21.2 An attacker landed on the floor off balance, took two steps and pushed with his chest against the net between the antennae while the ball was still in play. If the player had not caught the net, he/she would have fallen onto the opponent’s court. Is this a fault?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes, if a player is using the net as a support or stabilizing aid, between the antennae, his/her action is considered as interference with the play. Rules 11.3.1, 11.4.4</p>
<p>3.22.1 (3.22 / 2015) When an attacker hit the ball, he/she also hit the setter with his/her knee. This hit caused the setter to brush against the net. Is this a fault?</p>	<p>Ruling No, because the setter was not in the action of playing the ball and did not interfere with the play. Rules 11.3.1, 11.4.4</p>
<p>3.22.2 (new) After a setter jump-sets the ball to his outside hitter, he lands safely, takes two steps and brushes the lower mesh of the net in the process of covering the hitter (who has not yet played the ball). The ball from the hitter is blocked and the setter digs it. The referee sees the still-moving net and blows the whistle and signals for a net fault. Should this have been called a fault?</p>	<p>Ruling The decision was NOT correct. The touching of the net occurred after the setter had clearly established control of his body. The player is allowed to make a play on the next ball without fault. Rules 11.3.1, 11.4.4</p>

SERVICE

<p>3.23 As soon as a player had hit the ball for service, the scorer signalled “wrong server” or rotational fault to the 2nd referee, who stopped the game. Is this the correct action by the scorer?</p>	<p>Ruling Correct action by the scorer. When a wrong server is ready to serve the ball, the scorer must wait until the service action has been completed before notifying the referees of the fault. The scorer may have a bell, buzzer or some other sound device (but not a whistle) to signal the fault. Rules 7.7.1, 12.2.1, 12.7.1, 25.2.2.2</p>
<p>3.24 After the whistle for service, the serving team recognized it was the wrong server. The correct server then entered the service zone ready to serve. Can this player now serve?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes – provided the service is made by the correct player within 8 seconds from the whistle for service. The 1st referee does not whistle a second time. Rule 12.4.4</p>
<p>3.25 The server threw the ball up into the air, but then let it drop to the floor. He/she then caught the ball from the bounce and immediately served before the end of the 8 seconds allowed for service. Was this a legal action for the server?</p>	<p>Ruling The action of the server was not legal. The ball must be hit with one hand or any part of the arm after being tossed or released from the hand(s). Any action considered by the 1st referee to be a “toss for service” must end with the ball being hit for the service. Rule 12.4.2</p>
<p>3.26 The served ball touched the net and the antenna before being played by the receiving team. The 1st referee whistled for a service fault. Is this a correct decision by the 1st referee?</p>	<p>Ruling The decision of the 1st referee is correct. A ball touching the antenna is “out”. Rule 8.4.3, 27.2.1.3</p>
<p>3.27 A served ball hit the net just under the white band at the top of the net. When should the 1st referee whistle?</p>	<p>Ruling Whistle the instant it is clear the ball will not cross the net through the crossing space. The 1st referee must not wait until the ball hits the floor or a player of the serving team. Rule 12.6.2.1</p>
<p>3.28 (see 9.26)</p>	
<p>3.29 Team ‘A’ served. The ball hit the net and dropped towards the floor on ‘A’s’ side of the net. A player of ‘B’ reached under the net and caught the ball before it hit the floor. Is this allowed?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes – the 1st referee must whistle immediately the ball fails to cross the net. At this moment the ball is out of play. Rule 12.6.2.1</p>

ATTACK HIT

<p>3.30 A back row setter jumped from within the attack zone and set the ball <u>while it was completely above the height of the net</u>, directing it towards an attacker. Before the attacker could contact the ball, it penetrated the vertical plane of the net where it was blocked by the opponent's setter. Was there a fault?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes. The set became an illegal attack hit by a back row player when the attack hit was completed (in this case by contacting the opponent's block). The rally should have been won by the opponents.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 13.1.3</p>
<p>3.31 Instead of setting the ball to a teammate, a back row setter, within the front zone, decided to tip the ball across the net. The ball was completely above net height at the hit. Can this ball be blocked by reaching completely over the net?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes - this was an attack hit by the back row player. As soon as the ball was touched by the blocker, the illegal attack hit was completed.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 13.1.1, 13.1.3, 13.2.2, 13.3.3</p>
<p>3.32 On a second hit, a player passed the ball near the net towards the opponent's court. In the 1st referee's opinion, no player of 'A' could possibly reach the ball. The blocker of 'B' reached across the plane of the net and blocked the ball. What is the correct decision of the 1st referee?</p>	<p>Ruling Even though it was only the second team hit, if the ball is moving in the direction of the opponent's court, it is an attack hit. Because, in the referee's opinion, no player of 'A' could possibly have reached the ball, the block of 'B' was legal.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 13.1.1, 14.3</p>
<p>3.33 A back row player took off in the front zone and as a second hit spiked the ball which was completely higher than the top of the net. The ball rebounded and did not cross to the opponent. Is this a fault?</p>	<p>Ruling No. Since the ball neither crossed the plane of the net nor was contacted by the blocker, the attack hit was not completed. The rally continues.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 9.1, 13.1.3, 13.2.2, 13.3.3</p>
<p>3.34 'A's' receiver jumped from behind the attack line and contacted the served ball from completely higher than the top of the net. The contact was behind the attack line. Should play continue?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes, since the contact point of the hit was completely behind the attack line.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 13.3.4, 19.3.1.3</p>

BLOCK

<p>3.35 'A' passed badly and the ball crossed the plane of the net. The middle blocker of 'B' hit the ball across the net against the raised arm of the back row setter from 'A', who was still above the height of the net. The ball then rebounded across the net into 'B's' court. Who committed the fault?</p>	<p>Ruling The setter's "block" was illegal because he/she was a back row player. Intercepting a ball from opponents is a block if a part of the body is above net height.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 14.1.1, 14.1.3, 14.6.2</p>
<p>3.36 Is it legal for a blocker to reach over the net to block an opponent's "setting" action?</p>	<p>Ruling It is a fault to block a set. However, it is absolutely necessary for the 1st referee to determine the action of the setter. He/she must know whether the set was</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• made parallel to the net (block fault) or• was going towards the net, thus making it an attack hit (no fault). <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 14.1.1, 14.3</p>
<p>3.37 A player of 'A' blocked the attack of 'B'. Then the middle blocker of 'B' blocked the block of 'A'. Is it legal to block a blocked ball?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes, to block is to intercept a ball coming from the opponent's side, thus it is legal to block an opponent's block.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 14.1.1</p>
<p>3.38 A ball was blocked straight down. Just before the ball landed on the opponent's floor, the ball slightly touched the penetrating foot on the ground of one of the blockers. The 1st referee ruled a successful block. Is this correct?</p>	<p>Ruling Correct ruling by the 1st referee this time. But if the ball had struck the foot of the blocker well above the floor, the blocker could have interfered with the opportunity of the other team to play the ball and therefore the blocker would have committed a fault.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 11.2.1</p>
<p>3.39 A ball blocked by the legally penetrating blocker of team B flew some meters parallel to the net before a second player of B hit the ball with a blocking action down to the floor on the side of team 'A'. The ball had never penetrated into the air space of 'B'. Who gets next service?</p>	<p>Ruling Team A. The second player's action cannot be considered as block, because the ball was coming from the block of his/her teammate. Thus he/she was attacking in the opponent's space - which is a fault according to the rules.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 11.1.2, 14.1.1, 14.2, 14.3</p>
<p>3.40 Can an attacker hit the ball coming from the reception of his/her teammate with both hands using a blocking action, directing the ball to the other side of the net?</p>	<p>Ruling It is a legal play, provided it is not a double contact or a catch or throw. The contact must be on the player's own side of the net, however – not on the opponent's.</p>

<p>3.41 The ball made multiple contacts with the head and hands of several blockers. Should this be permitted?</p>	<p>Ruling Provided it is a blocking action and not separate actions, this counts as one block contact. After the block, a team is allowed three more ball contacts. Rules 9.1, 14.2, 14.4.1</p>
<p>3.42 Back row player's illegal attack versus illegal block (simultaneous contact) What is the fault?</p>	<p>Ruling Double fault and therefore replay. Rules 13.3.1,13.3.3, 14.1.1,14.6.1, 14.6.2</p>
<p>3.43 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. Is this an illegal block?</p>	<p>Ruling No. The player was not part of the collective block and was not higher than the top of the net when the ball contacted him/her. Therefore she cannot be a blocker. Rules 9.3.1, 14.1.1</p>
<p>3.44 The contact with the ball by a blocker was lower than the top of the net, although part of his/her hand was above the net. Is this a block?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes – having part of the body above the net is critical; the team would therefore have three more hits. Rules 9.1, 14.1.1, 14.4.1</p>
<p>3.45 A blocker hit the ball when he/she had already come down from his jump and his whole body was lower than the top of the net. When he/she hit the ball again, the referee called a “double hit”. Was this correct?</p>	<p>Ruling The decision was correct. At the moment of the ball contact, no part of the body of the blocker was higher than the top of the net. So the action could not be considered as a block, and his later contact made this a double hit. Rules 9.1, 14.1.1, 14.4.1</p>
<p>3.46 Illegal attack hit by back row player versus attempted Libero block- which occurs first?</p>	<p>Ruling The attack hit <i>becomes</i> a mistake at the moment when the ball has crossed the net totally or the block touched it. The attempt of the Libero to block was an action <i>before</i> the completion of the opponent's attack hit and is therefore the first mistake. Rule 19.3.1.3</p>

CHAPTER 4 - INTERRUPTIONS AND DELAYS

SUBSTITUTIONS

<p>4.1 Three substitute players entered the substitution zone. After the request was recognized and acknowledged by the scorer, the coach decided to make only two substitutions. What is the procedure for the 2nd referee?</p>	<p>Ruling This is legal as long as this does not cause a delay. Therefore the 2nd referee simply carries out a double substitution. Rules 15.10.2, 15.10.3a, 15.10.4, 16.1</p>
<p>4.2 One substitute player entered the substitution zone (the scorer sounded the horn) while another one was just leaving the warm-up area to try to enter the substitution zone. How many substitutions should be allowed under the current rules?</p>	<p>Ruling The moment of the request is the entrance of the substitute player(s) into the substitution zone. In this case the 2nd referee should grant only the one for the player who actually entered the substitution zone. The second action should be rejected as not a part of the original request. However, in such a situation the 2nd referee has the right to wave away the player trying to enter the substitution in order to prevent an improper request. With such action the second ref understood very well what is "art of refereeing". Rules 15.10.3a, 15.10.3b, 15.11.1.3</p>
<p>4.3 A substitution was "requested" by a team, by sending the player into the substitution zone. Because the player was not ready to play (wrong paddle/ no paddle/ track suit, etc), his team was sanctioned with a delay warning and the substitution was rejected. As soon as the delay sanction was applied, the team again requested the substitution. Was it allowed to make this second request during the same interruption?</p>	<p>Ruling The substitution was not legal and therefore not allowed. As the first request for substitution was rejected, the team was not authorized to request a second consecutive substitution in the same interruption. At least one rally must be completed before there can be another request for substitution by the same team. Rule 15.3.2</p>
<p>4.4 The substitute player had entered the substitution zone with the wrong "numbered paddle" for substitution. He fumbled to get the correct one. The 1st referee awarded a delay sanction, but allowed the substitution. Is this the correct response by the 1st referee?</p>	<p>Ruling Not correct. In FIVB, World an Official Competitions, the substitute player must enter the substitution zone with the correct "numbered paddle". Thus, the request for substitution by the team must be rejected, and a delay sanction must be awarded. Rules 15.10.3a, 16.1.1, 16.2</p>
<p>4.5 If a substitute steps into the substitution zone just as the whistle sounds for service, should the 2nd referee permit the substitution?</p>	<p>Ruling Generally this situation is a typical case of an improper request: reject and allow the game to continue. However, if the game has been stopped due to this request (the player on court goes to the substitution zone or the teams wait for the referee's decision, etc...) it should be considered as delay. The substitution should not be granted, and a sanction</p>

	for delay will result. Rules 15.10.3a, 16.2
<p>4.6 Player #8 entered the substitution zone with paddle #10. The coach insisted on the substitution with #9. After a short discussion, the 2nd referee rejected the substitution and the team was sanctioned with a delay warning. Was the decision correct?</p>	<p>Ruling The decision was correct. The substitution of #8 and #10 would have been legal. However, the coach insisted on the substitution of #8 for #9. Because the wrong paddle was shown and this caused a delay, the referee correctly sanctioned the team for delay. Substitution should be rejected. Rules 16.1.1, 16.2</p>
<p>4.7 A player became injured and had to be substituted exceptionally. During the same game interruption, the team requested an additional substitution. The 2nd referee accepted the request. Was the 2nd referee's decision correct to accept the request?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes, the 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</p>
<p>4.8 A starting player was substituted, then returned to court – but became injured and was not able to continue in the match. Who can substitute for this player?</p>	<p>Ruling Even though the player cannot be substituted by a legal substitution, he/she can be substituted exceptionally by any player not on court, except the Libero or his/her replacement player. This is recorded in the score sheet but does not count as one of the six allowed substitutions. Rule 15.7</p>
<p>4.9 A player listed on the line-up sheet was injured before the start of the match. Can he be substituted before the match?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes – but it should be shown formally by substitution signal (coach <i>and</i> 2nd referee so that everyone understands the situation) and must be recorded on the score sheet as a regular substitution. Rules 7.3.2, 7.3.4</p>
<p>4.10 Player #7 of team 'A' was found to be on the court when he should have been on the bench. Team 'A' had used the allowable six team substitutions. Since there were no legal substitutions remaining, what was the proper procedure to be used by the officials?</p>	<p>Ruling Since team 'A' had an incorrect line-up, the procedure given in Rule15.9.2 should be the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Point and service for team 'B'. The substitution must be rectified. #7 has to be removed from the set and the correct player must return to the court. This correction does not count as regular substitution. All points scored by team 'A' while #7 was in the game illegally must be cancelled, but the score of the opponent's team will remain as it is. There is no further penalty for team 'A'. <p>Rule 15.9.2</p>

<p>4.11 After team 'B' had used five substitutions, two substitute players entered the substitution zone. What is the proper response of the 2nd referee?</p>	<p>Ruling The 2nd referee has to remind the coach that only one substitution will be possible and ask the coach which one will be made. Provided there is no delay, the other substitution will be rejected as an improper request which is marked in the score sheet. Rules 15.5, 15.6, 15.11, 16.1</p>
<p>4.12 N° 5 returned to court. Then he became injured and had to be substituted exceptionally. However, the coach wanted the Libero replacement player to do this. Is this allowed?</p>	<p>Ruling No. The Libero replacement player cannot substitute for N°5. Rule 15.7</p>
<p>4.13 A team requested two substitutions. When checking the substitutions, the scorer indicated that the first of the requests for substitution was legal and the other request for substitution was illegal. What is the proper response of the 2nd referee?</p>	<p>Ruling The 2nd referee allows the legal substitution to take place. The illegal substitution must be refused no matter in which order the substitute players approach the side line. The request for an illegal substitution must be sanctioned with a "delay sanction". If the delay is the first, only a warning is issued; others are penalized. Rules 15.6, 16.1.3</p>
<p>4.14 A team was refused a requested substitution by the scorer pressing the buzzer a second time. When the 2nd referee checked the score sheet, he/she discovered that the substitution was, in fact, "legal", and "re-corrected" the situation. This was quite embarrassing. What should have been the response of the 2nd referee?</p>	<p>Ruling The procedure of the 2nd referee was correct. Changing decisions, however, can create a very unfavourable impression about the refereeing team.</p>
<p>4.15 A substitute player was standing in the substitution zone, ready to enter. However, the player on court initially refused to leave the court. Is this delay? Should the substitution be refused?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes, it is delay. However, the substitution THIS TIME should be allowed: Where the substitute player is not ready and causes a delay, the correct application of the rule is to reject the substitution and give a sanction to the team for delay. However, the player <i>in play</i> caused this special case, and the substitute player did not cause the delay. Rules 16.1.1, 23.2.3</p>
<p>4.16 If the line-up sheet does not match the court positions what does the 2nd referee do?</p>	<p>Ruling The 2nd referee should show the line-up sheet to the coach and ask what he wants to do. If the coach wishes to keep what is on court, he needs to make legal substitutions at 0:0. This is one situation, where the coach must give the hand signal to avoid misunderstandings. The 2nd referee also must carry this out formally for</p>

	<p>public understanding of the situation.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 7.3.5.2, 7.3.5.3</p>
<p>4.17 Player #6, ready to play, entered the substitution zone during an interruption. The scorer acknowledged the request by using the buzzer. At that moment the coach changed his/her mind and ordered the player back into the warm-up area. Should the substitution have been applied and what should have been the correct procedure?</p>	<p>Ruling The request for substitution was correct and already acknowledged by the scorer in using the buzzer. Due to the request, the game was stopped. It is not obligatory to apply the substitution, but the procedure caused a delay and should be sanctioned.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 15.10.3a, 15.10.3c, 16.1.1</p>
<p>4.18 After the whistle for service, a substitute player entered the substitution zone. The scorer ignored this, and the game didn't stop. After the end of the rally the 2nd referee told the scorer to record an improper request in the score sheet. Was this the right procedure?</p>	<p>Ruling The 2nd referee was correct. This was a typical case of an improper request, which had to be recorded in the score sheet. If this was a repeated improper request, a delay sanction must have been issued.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 15.11.2, 16.1.1</p>
<p>4.19 If a scorer presses the buzzer for substitution by mistake (after whistle for service/ player doesn't enter substitution zone), should the team be charged with an improper request?</p>	<p>Ruling Since the fault is made by the scorer, this should not be considered either as improper request or as a delay.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 15.10.3a, 15.10.3c</p>
<p>4.20 An unregistered player was found to be on court. What do the officials do?</p>	<p>Ruling The coach and the team captain have the duty to control the registration of players and confirm it with their signature. Unregistered players who have played in the match will be removed from the court as soon as this is discovered, in favour of a legitimate registered player. All points scored while this unrecorded player was on court will be cancelled, and the opponents will gain a point and the next service. If the mistake is detected after the end of the set, the set would be lost by team at fault. If the mistake is discovered after the end of the match, the whole match would be lost due to the unregistered player in the match.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 4.1.3, 4.2.2, 5.1.1, 5.2.2, 7.3.5.4, 15.9.2</p>
<p>4.21 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?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes. A completed rally is the sequence of playing actions which results in the award of a point. This includes the award of a penalty and being penalized for serving out-with the time limit. So there was in fact a completed rally between the two requests for substitution.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 15.2.2</p>

<p>4.22.1 (4.22 / 2015)</p> <p>At the control of the line-up, the 2nd 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. After this the match started. Was the procedure correct?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>The Libero is not allowed to be on the court in the starting six, and must leave the court until the situation has been resolved. Normally, of course, it is not possible to change a number on the line-up sheet.</p> <p>In this case, the 2nd 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 new line up on court, the 2nd referee will allow the Libero to enter the court.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 7.3.5.2</p>
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<p>4.22.2 (new)</p> <p>A team request a substitution, which is not granted because of a wrong paddle. This action caused delay sanction. This action causes a delay penalty (the team had already had a warning). Can the team make a new request for substitution?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>Yes. As penalties are now considered as completed rallies, the new request can be accepted in this case.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 6.1.3 – 15 - 15.2.1, 15.11.1.3</p>
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TIME-OUTS AND TECHNICAL TIME-OUTS

<p>4.23</p> <p>Team B executed a service by a wrong player. This fault was discovered later in the set, at the end of next TTO. After the respective consequences (cancellation of points gained by team 'B' with the faulty rotation, rectifying the line-up, service and point to team 'A')</p> <p>Should the referees apply again a TTO, when the leading team reaches the same score for TTO?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>No, only 1 TTO is to be applied in the first 4 sets at the following score: when the leading team reaches the 8th and 16th points.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 15.4.1</p>
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<p>4.24</p> <p>Which comes first – an automatic Technical Time out or a request for time out by a coach?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>A TTO has to be granted before a regular game interruption. If after the TTO the coach wanted to have also a normal TO, he should request this again.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 15.4.2</p>
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IMPROPER REQUESTS

<p>4.25</p> <p>Can a team request a substitution before AND after a time out, all taking place in the same interruption in play?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>No – while two Time outs can be called by the same team in the same interruption, two successive substitution requests are NOT allowed and the second one should be considered as improper request.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 15.3.1, 15.3.2, 15.10.3a, 15.11.1.3, 25.2.2.6</p>
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<p>4.26.1 (4.26 / 2015) A coach made a third request for time-out, which was granted by the 2nd referee. At that moment the scorer realized that it was the third time-out for this team and notified the 2nd referee about this. What is the proper procedure for the officials?</p>	<p>Ruling Normally this is improper request – but here an actual delay occurred. So reject or immediately curtail the time-out. Players return to court. The Game Captain is informed of the actual delay and a delay sanction is applied. Rules 15.11.1.4, 16.1.5, 25.2.2.6</p>
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<p>4.26.2 (new) Is it possible to have an improper request AFTER the team has already been awarded a DELAY warning or penalty?</p>	<p>Ruling 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 an improper request/ what constitutes a delay. So that, even if the team has already been guilty of delay, some actions are ONLY improper requests and are not combined within the earlier delay. Rule 15.5, 16.1</p>
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INJURIES

<p>4.27 Can a player play with a nose bleed?</p>	<p>Ruling Referees must use discretion if an injury occurs in which a player bleeds. If an immediate medical treatment does not rectify the injury he/she must be substituted or replaced until the bleeding is stopped and the blood is removed from the player's uniform. A substitute player must be permitted a reasonable time to take off his/her training suit and enter the game without sanctions. Rules 4.4, 15.5, 15.10.2, 15.10.3a, 17.1.1</p>
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<p>4.28 A setter injured his knee while playing defence. He remained lying on the floor while the coaches gathered around him and the team doctor checked his injury. After about two minutes of therapy, the setter declared that he was able to play again. The referee then signalled to continue the match with him. Was this the correct decision by the 1st referee?</p>	<p>Ruling The decision of the 1st referee was correct. For the safety of the player, the 1st referee must stop the rally immediately when an injury occurs and permit the team doctor and/or medical assistance to enter the court. If the injury appears to be serious and severe enough, the player should be removed from the court for at least one rally. The principle decision by the 1st referee is to give the player or/and the team doctor a reasonable time to know the seriousness of the injury, yet to limit the time before the substitution is required. The removal of the injured player must take place by a regular substitution. If this is not possible, an exceptional substitution must be used. Rules 15.7, 17.1.2</p>
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<p>4.29.1 An accident occurs at the moment of a substitution, which causes the substitute player's nose to bleed. What is the correct procedure?</p>	<p>Ruling First of all the referee should request medical assistance. It is necessary to stop the game. If the player cannot recover, a legal substitution should be applied although it is a second substitution within the same interruption. If no legal substitution is possible an exceptional substitution will be applied.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 15.11.1.3</p>
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<p>4.29.2 The team captain is injured before the start of the match. How should the situation be handled?</p>	<p>Ruling The process is determined by the moment of the injury. The main principle is written in rule 4.1.3, when the score sheet has been signed by captains and coaches, i.e. after the toss, the team has no right to change the roster (except, when the Libero is injured, no chance to play and coach wants to re-designate the original team captain as new Libero).</p> <p>Based on this if the injury of team captain occurred before the toss and he/she cannot play, the coach should designate a new team captain, putting a stripe under the number and circling the player's number in the score sheet. This new team captain will have all duties and rights (i.e. represents his/her team at the toss).</p> <p>If the original team captain's injury occurred after the toss, the coach has no right to designate another player as team captain. However, the coach should designate a "general game captain" who takes the rights and duties of the original team captain and signs the score sheet after the match.</p> <p>In both situations the fact of the injury should be recorded in the score sheet.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 4.1.3, 5.1, 5.2.1, 5.2.2, 19.4.2.5, 25.2.2.7</p>
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<p>4.29.3 (new) Following a substitution by team "A", the rally has been interrupted due to the injury of a team "A" player; the player cannot continue in the game. Although there is no completed rally between the request for substitution is it legal to substitute the injured player?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes, it is. Although it is improper to request a second substitution without a completed rally, where there is a force majeure situation like this, it is permitted to remove the injured/ill player on court by a substitution.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 15.11.1.3</p>
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DELAYS TO THE GAME

<p>4.30 Prior to the start of the third set of a match, the 1st referee whistled the teams to enter the court. One team did not react. When they were too slow to respond, the 1st referee issued a delay warning to them. The team then entered the court. Was this the appropriate action by the 1st referee?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes, the 1st referee acted correctly. The teams must be summoned to take their positions on the court. If they do not react, the 1st referee must issue a delay warning to them pointing to the wrist with yellow card, and this must be recorded on the score sheet. If the team still did not react, a delay penalty, indicated by a red card, would have been given. If this also proved to be ineffective, it would have been judged a refusal to play, the team would have been declared to be in default and the match would have been forfeited. In such a case, the score would have been recorded as 0:3 (0:25, 0:25, 0:25). If a team is returning slowly to the court after a time-out, the same procedure should be followed. Rules 6.4.1, 16.1</p>
<p>4.31 Will a team be sanctioned for delay if it forms a huddle on court?</p>	<p>Ruling There is no requirement for the 1st referee to allow more than a reasonable time for the players to move to their positions for the next rally. He must allow for appropriate enthusiasm and cheering but cannot allow the game to be delayed. Rules 16.1.2, 16.1.5</p>
<p>4.32 A player refused to play because of a wet place on the floor caused by a team member diving for a ball. What is the proper response of the 1st referee?</p>	<p>Ruling The 1st referee should <i>never accept the request</i> of the team wiping a wet spot on the floor, because the request is the subject for a delay sanction. The “quick moppers” should mop the wet spot on the floor. Players may also use their own small towels to mop the floor. When the 1st referee deems it necessary to mop the floor by the moppers, he may give the order. The control of the match is always by decision of the 1st referee, if there is no Control Committee. In a match with a Control Committee, the Game Jury President may authorize the 2nd referee to allow extra mopping if the wet patch is large and the temperature is above 25 degrees Celsius and the humidity is above 61%. If finally the team still refuses to play, the referee can sanction the team with either delay or default sanctions. Rules 1.5, 5.1.2.2, 6.4.1, 16.2</p>
<p>4.33 During an interval between two sets, an entire team went to their locker room and returned after 5 minutes. The 1st referee issued a delay sanction, and the game was continued. Was this an appropriate reaction of the referee?</p>	<p>Ruling Firstly a team is not allowed to leave the competition area without permission of the referees. Nevertheless, after two and a half minutes, the 2nd referee should go to the team and remind them to immediately enter the court so as not to be declared</p>

	<p>in default. After they are back on the court, the 1st referee should issue a delay sanction.</p> <p>Rules 4.2, 6.4.1, 6.4.2, 18.1</p>
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EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE

<p>4.34 What is the correct response of the 1st referee if spectators interrupt the match?</p>	<p>Ruling The 1st referee should stop the match and the organizer or the Control Committee should take steps to re-establish the order. This interruption should be recorded on the score sheet.</p> <p>Rules 17.2, 17.3</p>
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<p>4.35 The 1st referee did not stop the play when the TV boom hit the server. The server was not hurt or disturbed during the service execution. The 1st referee had let the rally continue. There was no protest by the serving team. Is this the correct decision by the 1st referee?</p>	<p>Ruling The decision of the 1st referee was correct in this instance because it was spectacular and caused great interest and enthusiasm among the crowd. However, in other situations the 1st referee should consider repeating the rally.</p>
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<p>4.36 (new) After a digging in the free zone behind the end line the ball has hit the crane camera penetrating into the playing space. The referees should stop the game. How should the 1st referee consider this action as "OUT" or a "external interference"?</p>	<p>Ruling Within the playing area the players have the priority to play. If the ball hits an outside object or a person penetrating from outside the playing area, e.g. the crane TV camera or a spectator catching the ball, it should be considered as "external interference" and the rally should be replayed.</p> <p>Rule 17.2</p>
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CHAPTER 5 – LIBERO

<p>5.1 Can the Libero enter the game without the 2nd referee's permission after checking the line-up before the set?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes, he can. The starting player must be on the court at the time of the line-up check. As soon as the 2nd referee checked the line-up, the Libero may replace the back row player. The team does not need to start with or use a Libero. Rule 19.3.2.4, 19.3.2.8, 24.3.1</p>
<p>5.2 A team applied all legal substitutions in a set when a player on court is expelled and the Libero is sitting on the bench. How to continue the match?</p>	<p>Ruling The expelled/disqualified player should be immediately substituted legally. Since there is no possibility for that, the team has to be declared incomplete and will lose the set. (Note: exceptional substitutions are not an option here). Rules 6.4.3, 15.7, 15.8</p>
<p>5.3 Can the Libero be allowed to enter the match by a regular substitution procedure in place of an injured player?</p>	<p>Ruling No. The Libero is not allowed to participate in any substitution, regular or exceptional. Rules 15.5, 15.7, 17</p>
<p>5.4 The Libero was on the court for player #5 and was expelled from the set. What is the correct process to continue the match?</p>	<p>Ruling If the team has two Liberos, the coach may replace the sanctioned acting Libero immediately by the second Libero. If the team has only one Libero, the team may chose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to send Player #5 back to the court in place of the Libero and play without a Libero for the remainder of the set, or• the coach re-designates a new Libero from the players not on the court in the moment of re-designation and the new Libero may immediately and directly replace the expelled acting Libero (who is not allowed to play for the remainder of the match). <p>Rules 6.4.3, 19.1.1, 19.3.2, 19.3.2.8, 19.4</p>
<p>5.5 Can a Libero replacement take place at the same time as a substitution?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes – because the “replacement” is not a “substitution” and vice versa. Rules 15.3.2, 19.3.2, 19.3.2.8</p>

<p>5.6 The Libero replacing the player in position 1 did it after the referee's whistle for service but before the service hit. What is the proper response by the 1st referee?</p>	<p>Ruling If this was the first occurrence in the match, the 1st referee should allow the rally to continue uninterrupted. After the rally, he/she should advise the game captain that this is not a correct procedure. Subsequent late replacements should trigger delay sanctions immediately, interrupting the rally. <u>The Libero replacement remains valid, however.</u> If the replacement has been made after the service hit, the 1st referee should whistle this as a positional fault.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 19.3.2.5</p>
<p>5.7 A team made an illegal Libero replacement, but it was noticed before the service hit was made. How should this be handled?</p>	<p>Ruling If noticed, the 2nd referee will use the whistle to call back the player. The illegal replacement will be cancelled and the team will be sanctioned for delay.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 19.3.2.1, 19.3.2.9, 23.2.3</p>
<p>5.8 Five players were on court when the referee whistled for service; meanwhile the Libero who was sitting on the bench apparently forgot to return after the previous rally. What procedures must the referees follow?</p>	<p>Ruling The 1st referee must only whistle for service if both teams are ready to play and the server is in possession of the ball. If the Libero's late entry delays the whistle for service significantly, the team should be sanctioned for Delay. If the 1st Referee by mistake authorises the service, he/she should interrupt the rally and replay it without penalty.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 7.5.1,12.3, 19.3.2.3, 19.3.2.5</p>
<p>5.9 While running after a ball, the team's only Libero (replacing N^o4) injured his leg muscle and could no longer play. The coach then decided that he wanted player N^o4 to become the re-designated Libero. Is this possible?</p>	<p>Ruling Not directly. The coach may re-designate a new Libero from one of the players not on the court (replacement player excepted) at the moment of the request for re-designation. If the coach wants player N^o 4 to be the new Libero, N^o 4 at first has to return to court and be substituted legally. Then he can be re-designated as new Libero.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 19.1.3., 19.3.2.2, 19.3.2.8, 19.4.2</p>
<p>5.10 Is it allowed to be a coach and the Libero at the same time?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes. The rules state that the Libero cannot be the team or game captain. The rules do not forbid the Libero from being the coach or instructing the team behind the coach restriction line.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 5.2.3.4</p>

<p>5.11 A mistake by two players led to the Libero/ replacement player leaving the court briefly (this event had not yet been recorded on the Libero control sheet)– but they corrected the mistake immediately themselves. Is this counted as a replacement?</p>	<p>Ruling No, this does not count as a replacement. Rule 19.3.2.1 states that there must be one rally between two Libero replacements. This was an obvious mistake but should not be counted as a fault. Rules 19.3.2.1, 19.3.2.2</p>
<p>5.12 A team forgot to replace the Libero when he rotated to the front row in position 4. After three points, the 1st referee noticed that the Libero was on court illegally. What is the correct decision for the referee to make?</p>	<p>Ruling The Libero does not commit a positional fault until the server hits the ball. When there is a properly registered player not legally on court, this must be penalized with a point and service to the opponent, the line-up must be rectified and the points scored by the team at fault since the moment the fault was committed (if it can be determined) must be cancelled. Rules 15.9, 19.3.1.1, 26.2.2.1, 26.2.2.2</p>
<p>5.13 During the official warm-up the team’s single Libero was injured. Can the captain become the new Libero?</p>	<p>Ruling If the team has two Liberos, the coach may replace the injured active Libero immediately by the second Libero. If the second Libero becomes injured, or if the team only has one Libero, the coach may re-designate a new one from one of the players not on the court at the moment of the re-designation. While it is true that the Libero cannot be team or game captain the team captain can give up his position and all rights and duties linked to it, in order to play as the re-designated Libero. Rules 5, 19.2, 19.3.2.8, 19.4.2.5,</p>
<p>5.14 The Libero was replaced and immediately sent back to the court (without any rally between the two replacements). Is this permitted?</p>	<p>Ruling No. This is a typical case for illegal Libero replacement. At the moment of the 2nd replacement the 2nd referee should reject it, and the 1st referee should issue a delay sanction. Where an assistant scorer acts, it is his/her duty to check the Libero replacements. In this case, in the moment he/ she should press the buzzer, signalling the fault committed. Rules 19.3.2.9, 23.2.3</p>
<p>5.15 The Libero was replaced by a normal player. After the service, a reserve ball penetrated into the playing court, and the rally was stopped. Before the whistle for the replayed rally, the Libero attempted to replace the player in position #6. The 2nd referee called him back. Is this a correct action by the 2nd referee?</p>	<p>Ruling This is a typical case for illegal Libero replacement, because there was no <u>completed</u> rally between two Libero replacements. At the moment of the 2nd replacement the 2nd referee should reject it, and the 1st referee should issue a delay sanction. Rule19.3.2.1</p>

<p>5.16 The Libero of a team became injured during the match, and the 2nd referee authorized the medical doctor, with the coach in attendance, to be on the court for checking the seriousness of the injury. They decided to take the Libero out of the court and send the replaced player back on the court. After he was led off the court, the Libero claimed he had recovered and insisted on returning to the court to play. The referees allowed the Libero to go back on the court and to resume the match. Was this correct?</p>	<p>Ruling No, it should not have been allowed. Even though it was the case of injury, the Libero could be replaced through a regular replacement. Also, the Libero still has the right to participate in the match until he/she is declared unable to continue (Rule 19.4.2). Thus, this situation was a mistake because two consecutive replacements took place without any rally in between. This is a case for illegal Libero replacement. According to the rules, at the moment of the 2nd replacement the referee should reject it, and the 1st referee should issue a delay sanction. Rules 19.3.2.1, 19.3.2.8</p>
<p>5.17 The Libero of team 'A' injured his/her arm during the match, and a new Libero was re-designated. The original Libero sat on the bench for the remainder of the match. Should this have been permitted?</p>	<p>Ruling Yes. The player was mobile, not providing any obstruction or danger to himself/herself or teammates. This last point is crucial to the ruling. The player should be permitted to stay on the bench. Had the player to be treated, the team doctor should have been advised to place the player behind the bench or in a place of safety outside the Competition-Control area. Diagram 1a and Definitions. Rule 19.3.2.8</p>
<p>5.18 When can two Libero replacements take place in the same interruption ?</p>	<p>Ruling Normally there has to be a completed rally between successive Libero replacements. However, in the case where a PENALTY to the opponent would force the Libero to rotate to position four, it is permitted, as the situation is not of the team's choosing. The award of a penalty counts now as a completed rally. Rules 6.1.3, 19.3.2.1</p>
<p>5.19 The Libero complained of feeling sick. Is it permitted to re-designate a new Libero?</p>	<p>Ruling If the team has two Liberos, in case of injury or illness of the Acting Libero, he/she can be replaced by the second Libero. In the case where a team has only one Libero or the second Libero has become unable to play while on court, he/she can be replaced by the re-designation procedure. Rules 19.3.2.2, 19.3.2.8</p>
<p>5.20 The scorer recorded the number '15' for the Libero, instead of "5". The coach and the team captain signed the team list. What should happen if discovered?</p>	<p>Ruling This is an administrative mistake and will not have any consequences for the team. The scorer will correct the number in the 'Remarks' box. Rule 19.1.2</p>

<p>5.21 In the 1st set of a match, the Libero of 'A' played in a shirt with the same colour and design as the rest of the team. Before the start of the 2nd set, the coach of 'B' protested against this situation. What is the correct decision?</p>	<p>Ruling Because the wrong shirt had no influence on the game, the result of the 1st set will not be cancelled. The Libero has to change his/her shirt, however. Rule 19.2</p>
<p>5.22 Two players tried to block an opponent's attack and jumped at the net. Between them the Libero also jumped, but didn't reach at any time with any part of his/her body higher than the top of the net. Nevertheless the 2nd referee whistled this as block attempt. Was this decision correct?</p>	<p>Ruling The decision was not correct. Because the Libero didn't reach at any time with any part of his body higher than the top of the net, his/her jumping could not be considered as a block attempt. Rules 14.1.1, 14.1.2, 14.1.3</p>
<p>5.23 The Libero came off court. The server was whistled for a delay in service (8 seconds). Can the Libero now re-enter the court?</p>	<p>Ruling This service (fault) is to be considered as a completed rally. Therefore the Libero will be allowed to replace the player. Rules 6.1.3, 19.3.2.1, 19.3.2</p>
<p>5.24 The coach declared the single Libero unable to play and wanted to re-designate a new Libero. Who can be re-designated as the new Libero and when?</p>	<p>Ruling Except for the regular replacement player, any player on the bench at the moment of the request for re-designation can be re-designated as the new Libero. The original Libero cannot come back into the match at any time. If the coach wants the regular replacement player to be the new Libero, he/she first must substitute him/her legally. If the Acting Libero is declared unable to play, he/she must be replaced by the regular replacement player and the new Libero has the right to enter the court after one completed rally. Rules 19.3.2.8, 19.4.2.1, 19.4.2.4</p>

<p>6.1 The 1st referee warned a player for minor misconduct, going directly to STAGE 2 of the minor misconduct procedures, and showing the player a yellow card, to be recorded on the score sheet. Is this a correct action by the 1st referee?</p>	<p>Ruling This is a correct action by the referee. Such minor misconducts must be controlled by the 1st referee. The yellow card must therefore be recorded. The 1st referee may give a verbal warning to the team via the game captain (stage 1) if the minor misconduct is of a general nature. Although, depending of the seriousness of minor misconduct he/she may start with stage 2 showing a yellow card directly to the concerned player or team member through the game captain. The referee has the authority to go directly to the issuing of sanctions if an offence is of a serious nature. Rules 21.1, 21.2</p>
<p>6.2 The 2nd referee observed an attempted deception (a blocker pulled the net) and whistled for the attacking team to win the rally. The 1st referee then signalled a warning to the player by using a yellow card. Is this the correct penalization for him/her?</p>	<p>Ruling The decision of the 1st referee was not correct. The rally should have been won by the attacking team because of the net contact by the opposite player which interfered with the play. The blocker then should have received a penalty, (red card: point and service to the opponents), for the rude conduct of attempting to mislead the referees. Rules 21.2.1, 21.3</p>
<p>6.3 The Coach of ‘A’ stood up at the end of a rally and waved his arms in a manner that suggested disgust with the referee’s decision. Is this allowed?</p>	<p>Ruling The coach should be allowed to express certain normal responses. If the response is judged to be minor misconduct reaching the stage 2 level, the coach should be warned by the 1st referee by use of a yellow card. If repeated, he should be penalized with a red card for rude conduct. If the infraction occurred during a rally, the penalty should be given at the end of the rally in addition to the result of the rally. Rules 5.2, 21.1, 21.2, 21.3</p>
<p>6.4 Between sets a penalty (red card) for rude conduct was given by the 1st referee to Team ‘A’ which had the first service for the next set. What happens next?</p>	<p>Ruling Sanctions imposed between sets are set against the next set. Thus, before the first service, the 1st referee should signal the penalty for team A. The team B gains one point, rotates and serves. Rule 21.5</p> <p>If there is an occasion in which there are penalties <u>to both teams</u>, the serving team is penalized first, and then the receiving. The following is a summary of infractions which occur between sets, the penalties for which must be recorded on the score sheet:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warning against a player of the serving team (yellow card). No penalty, but to be recorded on the score sheet. • Warning against a player of the receiving team (yellow card). No penalty, but to be recorded on the score sheet, • Penalty (red card) against a serving team player only. The receiving team gains a point, rotates and gains the service. • Penalty (red card) against a receiving team player only. Point awarded to the serving team. • Penalties (red cards) against each team no matter in which order. Point for the receiving team, This team rotates one position, and will then be penalized with point and service to the opponent. The original serving team rotates one position and starts to serve with the second player in the service order. The score is 1-1. The score is counted only when each team has been penalized. Thus, a double penalty at the score of 24-25 would not end the set at 24-26, but the score would be 25-26.
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<p>6.5 After the end of a rally, the setter pulled down the bottom of the net. Should this have been a fault?</p>	<p>Ruling According to Rule 21.3, the 1st referee has the authority to sanction a player according to the seriousness of the offence. Pulling down the net may be a normal emotional reaction of a disappointed player and can be controlled by the art of refereeing. In some cases, intentional pulling down of the net may be considered as a rude conduct.</p> <p>Since this case was not an attempt to mislead the referee during play, there should be no penalty for rude conduct.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 21.2, 21.2.1, 21.3</p>
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<p>6.6 A player walked towards the 1st referee gesturing wildly and shouting to him even after a warning. How should we consider this action?</p>	<p>Ruling This should be regarded as Offensive Conduct, and sanctioned by red and yellow cards jointly.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 21.1, 21.2, 21.3</p>
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<p>6.7 A player was expelled directly from the court with no prior warning. How should we regard a subsequent minor misconduct from any other member of the same team?</p>	<p>Ruling The 1st referee should normally try to prevent a team from reaching the sanctioning level. However, should a clear case of offensive conduct be committed in the first instance, the referee must expel the player without a previous sanction (red and yellow card showed jointly). The 1st referee may issue a warning to other team members after the expulsion – but once the yellow card is shown, it may not be shown again to any member of the team.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 21</p>
<p>6.8 After the match one team captain showed very unsportsmanlike behaviour against the 1st referee. What is the correct procedure of the 1st referee?</p>	<p>Ruling The player must still be sanctioned in some way. However, for FIVB events, since the match is regarded as not finished by the last whistle of the referees, the behaviour of the team captain must be reported to the Game Jury, and the details of the misconduct recorded in the REMARKS box of the score sheet. The FIVB Control Committee has a range of sanctions at its disposal, including suspension from the Competition.</p>
<p>6.9 The Libero replacement was sitting on the bench. The 1st referee sanctioned him/her by issuing a penalty. The player did not stop this behaviour and applauded the referee. The 1st referee sanctioned him/her with an expulsion. The expelled player continued the behaviour and received a disqualification. What is the correct procedure?</p>	<p>Ruling The expelled or disqualified player should be substituted immediately. Therefore he/she has to be substituted legally. The sequence of procedure is the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Libero should leave the court, then • the substitute player enters the substitution zone with the appropriate paddle, gives it to the 2nd referee; meanwhile the scorer records the legal substitution. <p>The Libero may return to the court after one completed rally. The score at the moment of expulsion (or disqualification) must be recorded.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 6.4.3, 15.8</p>

CHAPTER 7 – THE REFEREES AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES

<p>7.1 The 2nd referee told a coach not to talk with or distract the scorer. Is this a correct action by the 2nd referee?</p>	<p>Ruling In the spirit of the art of refereeing, if such situations can be resolved by the 2nd referee without formality, this can be done.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 23.3.2.2</p>
<p>7.2 Can a reserve player sit on the floor in the warm-up area instead of standing or stretching?</p>	<p>Ruling Players are not required to stand in the warm-up area. On the other hand, players may not sit on benches, chairs, rails or walls in the warm-up area.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 4.2.1, 4.2.3, 24.2.4, 24.2.5</p>
<p>7.3 Can a coach ask the scorer for information about the number of time-outs that had been taken by the other team?</p>	<p>Ruling The scorer should not respond to the coach. Generally, coaches are not permitted to ask the scorers for any information. However, where an electronic scoreboard is used, but the number of used game interruptions is not indicated, the coaches have the right to ask the scorer for this information, but only about their own team and at a time which is neither distracting to the scorer nor delaying the match.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 25.2.2</p>
<p>7.4 Can a captain make a formal protest on the score sheet if he has not notified the referee of his intention during the match?</p>	<p>Ruling If at the time of any incident, the game captain made no mention of a protest, he cannot make a written protest on the score sheet at the end of the match.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 5.1.2.1, 5.1.3.2, 23.2.4</p>
<p>7.5 Can a refereeing decision be reversed even after the end of the set?</p>	<p>Ruling 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.</p>
<p>7.6 After a request for a third time out was refused, the coach changed her mind and sent a player for substitution. Is this allowed?</p>	<p>Ruling Provided there was no whistle for service, the request for substitution should have been allowed as proper – only the time out was improper. However, the improper request for time-out should be recorded on the score sheet.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 15.1, 15.2.1, 15.11, 16.1, 16.2, 24.2.6, 24.2.7</p>

<p>7.7 After the 2nd referee urged the teams to enter the court the coach of 'B' apparently observed the players of 'A' in their positions on the court, and then submitted his/her line-up to the 2nd referee. The 1st referee sanctioned team 'B' with a "delay warning". Is this correct?</p>	<p>Ruling The 1st referee made an error by directing team 'A' to take the court before the coach of 'B' had submitted his line-up sheet to the 2nd referee. Team B was guilty of delay and the coach behavior - taking advantage of the situation- should be considered as Rude conduct. Sanctions should have been given as appropriate.</p>
<p>7.8 During a time-out a coach met with his entire team in the very back corner of the free zone near the warm-up zone. Is this permitted?</p>	<p>Ruling Rule 15.4.4 states that the team must "go to the free zone near their bench" during a time-out. The 2nd referee should tell the team to go near to their bench. Rule 15.4.4</p>
<p>7.9 The assistant coach came to the sideline to assist the players to find a wet spot. The 1st referee called the game captain and told him/her to tell the assistant coach to stay on the bench. Did the 1st referee make a correct decision?</p>	<p>Ruling The decision of the 1st referee was correct. 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 behind the coach's restriction line. Rules 5.2.3.4, 5.3.1</p>
<p>7.10 After a rally a coach asked the 2nd referee if his/her server was correct. The 2nd referee checked the rotational order with the scorer and replied that the correct player was ready to serve. The 1st referee continued the match. Is this the correct process of the referees?</p>	<p>Ruling The process was not correct. The only team member allowed to speak with the referees is the game captain. Thus, the coach is not authorized to request information from the 2nd referee. The 1st referee should have called the game captain and asked her to remind the coach of the fact that he/she has no right to ask the referees for information. Rule 5.1.2</p>
<p>7.11 (new) After the end of time-out both teams returned to the court, except one player, who was still drinking water close to the bench. The scorer already made the "two hands" signal ready to continue the game. Has the 2nd referee the right to give his/her "two hands" signal towards the 1st referee?</p>	<p>Ruling No. Before the start of a set or continuing the game after a TO or TTO the 2nd referee's duty is to check if the scorer has finished the administrative tasks and if the teams are on the court ready to play. Therefore if any one of the players did not enter the court after being summoned by the referees to continue, the 2nd referee has no right to give the "two hands" signal. After a reasonable time the 1st referee should consider this action as a delay and issue the appropriate sanction. In a similar way, the 2nd referee will not give the "OK" if there has been a hidden Libero replacement; only when every duty is completed can the OK be given. Refereeing Guidelines and Instructions 24.7</p>

<p>7.12 (new) What is the signal when the served ball passes the net plane outside the antenna?</p>	<p>Ruling This should be signal OUT, diagram D11(15). If during the rally after the 3rd team hit the ball passes/hits the antenna, then the signal is also OUT Rule 8.4.3.</p>
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CHAPTER 8 – SPECIAL CASES

<p>8.1 Team ‘B’ intentionally slowed down the tempo of the game. How should the referee respond?</p>	<p>PRINCIPLE 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 retard the flow of a good match and ruin the good performance of one of the teams. This is another “art” of refereeing.</p>
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<p>8.2 A floor wiping towel from one of the players of ‘B’ fell on the court of A. What should the referees do?</p>	<p>Ruling If, according to the judgment of the 1st referee, the situation is dangerous, he should stop the game immediately and direct a replay. But if the rally is finished and the falling towel will have no influence on its outcome, there is no need to direct a replay. Rule 17.2</p>
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<p>8.3 The match was resumed on another playing court after the lights failed. What is the correct ruling on the use of a disqualified player in the third set when it started again</p>	<p>Ruling Rule 17.3.2.2 states that the interrupted set on a different court has to be cancelled and replayed with the same team members and the same starting line-ups (except expelled or disqualified ones). When such a set is resumed, 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 his place. Furthermore, all other sanctions which have been recorded on the score sheet up to the point that the lights went out must be carried over into the new set. Rule 17.3.2.2</p>
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<p>8.4 When passing the net post to retrieve a 1st hit passing outside the antenna, a player grabbed the post to turn rapidly enough to get to the ball. Is this taking support?</p>	<p>Ruling No. As long as the player is not in contact with the net post while he is hitting the ball, the play is legal. Rule 9.1.3</p>
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<p>8.5 After a substitution, the 1streferee realised the point should go the other way. The coach therefore requested to reverse the substitution. Is this possible?</p>	<p>Ruling Since the 1st referee changed his/her decision, which was the basis of the substitution, in the spirit of the game the coach’s request could be accepted. No substitution would be charged against this team.</p>
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CHAPTER 9 – EXTENDED CASES

The cases shown above are specifically designed to be short, easily read and easily understood – i.e. to make them accessible to a larger audience.
The following cases contain extended versions of some of the same cases, to permit a more exhaustive analysis of the event as it actually took place.

9.1

A player passed the received ball so, that it would have crossed the net if not touched by another player of the same team. The setter was in position to make a legal play on the ball. The opponent's blocker reached across the vertical plane of the net and blocked the ball before the setter could play it. The 1st referee called a fault on the block.
Is this a correct decision of 1st referee?

Ruling

The 1st referee's decision was correct, and the block was illegal. Blockers may not contact the ball beyond the net until the attack hit is executed, except when in the judgment of the 1st referee, no possibility exists for further play of the ball by the attacking team.

Rule 14.3

9.2

The back row setter in the front zone attacked the ball completely higher than the top of the net. Simultaneous with his/her contact of the ball, the opponent blocker reached across the plane of the net and contacted the ball in a blocking action.
What was the correct decision by the 1st referee?

Ruling

The correct decision is to call a double fault. The attack hit by the back row setter was illegal. The simultaneous block by the blocker was also illegal, because the hit was done in **the attacker's team space**.

If the contact by the blocker had been after the contact by the setter, then only the attack hit by the setter should have been a fault.

If the simultaneous contact had occurred ABOVE the net, where both teams have the right to play the ball, only the attack hit by the setter should have been a fault.

Rules 13.3.3, 14.3, 14.6.1, Diagram 7

9.3

A player of team 'A' set the ball over the net into the opponent's space, where a back row player within the front zone jumped and reached higher than the top of the net to block. An attacker of 'A' contacted the ball beyond the plane of the net to hit the ball with two hands in a blocking action. Both players touched the ball at the same time. The 1st referee signalled a double fault.
Was the referee's decision correct?

Ruling

The referee's decision was correct. The attacker, even though he/she hit the ball with a blocking action, completed an attack hit, not a block. A block is an action to intercept the ball coming from the opponent's side of the court, not coming from his own setter (Rule 14.1.1).

Since the initial contact of the ball by the attacker was in the opponent's space, the attack was illegal (Rule 13.3.1).

The back row player completed the block by the contact with the ball higher than the top of the net (Rule 14.1.1). A back row player completing a block makes a fault (Rule 14.6.2).

Since both players committed a fault at the same time, the rally ended with a double fault.

Under this complicated situation at the top of the net, the 1st referee must observe the play very carefully. If the attacker from 'A' touched the ball first, he should be charged with the only fault. If the

	<p>back row player touched the ball first, he/she should be charged with the only fault.</p> <p>Rules 13.3.1, 14.1.1, 14.6.2</p>
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<p>9.4</p> <p>Player #6 of team 'A' was disqualified from the match, and legally substituted by #7. This was the first substitution for team 'A' during the set, and there were three more players on the bench. During the next rally, team 'A' player #7 became injured and was not able to continue to play.</p> <p>Therefore, the 1st referee authorized team 'A' to substitute player #7 by another player in an exceptional substitution.</p> <p>Is this a permitted sequence of actions by the referee?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>Rule 15.8 states, "An expelled or disqualified player must be substituted through a legal substitution. If this is not possible, the team is declared incomplete". In the first action a legal substitution of #6 by #7 was made. Once the substitution was complete, all of the players of team 'A' on the court were eligible to play. Then, the second incident occurred, and player #7 was not able to continue to play. Even though player #7 cannot be substituted by a legal substitution, player #7 can be substituted exceptionally.</p> <p>Rules 15.7,15.8</p>
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<p>9.5</p> <p>In a team, R-2 and R-5 were the best attackers. During a set, R-5 was substituted out and then returned to the court. Later in the set, while R-5 was at the net, he/she became injured and had to be substituted exceptionally.</p> <p>When the coach saw R-5 lying on the court, apparently injured very badly, he signalled his team to replace R-2 with the Libero. Now the Libero was in the back row and R-2 on the bench. After it had been determined that R-5 could not continue to play, the coach requested R-2 to enter the game for R-5, using an exceptional substitution.</p> <p>Is this a legal sequence of substitutions?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>This is not legal. R-2 cannot substitute for R-5 since he was on the court at the moment of the injury. The injured player should be substituted by an exceptional substitution (the coach may use any player not on the court at the moment of the injury, except the Libero or his/her replacement player). Other actions by the coach must be subsequent to this action.</p> <p>Rule 15.7</p>
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<p>9.6</p> <p>During the check of the line-up, the 2nd referee realized there was a discrepancy between the line-up sheet and the actual line-up of team 'A'. In position 1 player #5 was on the court instead of player #7, as recorded on the line-up sheet. He mentioned this to the coach, who decided to start the set with the actual line-up on the court. Therefore he used a regular substitution at the score 0-0. The substitution was not executed, but only recorded in the score sheet. Meanwhile, the Libero replaced player #5. Three rotations later, when the Libero rotated to the position 4, he was replaced by #7. The coach requested a substitution with #5 for #7. After the substitution was executed, the 1st referee realized that it was a mistake, since this substitution had taken place already at the score of 0-0. After a short discussion with the game captain, he cancelled the second "unnecessary" substitution. The game continued without any sanction.</p> <p>Was it a correct procedure?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>The referees' decision was correct to cancel the second substitution. The problem was that this substitution at the beginning of the set was not clearly executed by the two normal players, and due to this fact, the coach and the players missed it and stopped the game without reason. Since the game stopped for a couple of minutes, a delay sanction should have been given to the team.</p> <p>This is one situation, where the coach must give the hand signal to avoid misunderstandings.</p>
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<p>9.7 The 1st referee whistled for service, while a substitute player approached the substitution zone. The scorer didn't take care of the whistle of the referee and wrongly pushed the buzzer. The substitute player realized that he was late, and went back to the bench. The game stopped and the on-court player to be substituted went to the substitution zone. What should be the correct procedure of the referees in this situation?</p>	<p>Ruling The 1st referee had to stop the rally. Even though there was no real request, the game was delayed by the player on court, who thought he was to be substituted, and the respective team had to be sanctioned for delay. The team to serve next is decided by the result of the delay sanction. If the 1st referee had not stopped the rally, then after the execution of the service, this team would have made a positional fault. With the actual substitution procedure, the scorer must pay a lot of attention to requests for substitution. It was the scorer's fault for pushing the buzzer without a real request being made. Rules 15.11.2, 16.1.1</p>
<p>9.8 A substitute player approached the substitution zone, but did not enter. The 1st referee whistled for service, but the scorer did not pay attention to the actual position of the player and pushed the buzzer. The substitute player, realizing that he was late, went back to the bench. The rally didn't stop. After the end of the rally, the 2nd referee told the scorer to record an improper request to this team. Was this correct?</p>	<p>Ruling Because the rally didn't stop, and the fault was made by the scorer, this case could not be considered either as an improper request or as a delay. Therefore the 2nd referee was not correct. Rules 15.10.3a, 15.10.3c</p>
<p>9.9 Team "A" requested a substitution. The substitute player just entered into the substitution zone ready to play with numbered card, when the 1st referee was about to give the signal for the next service of team "B". Neither the scorer, nor the 1st referee realized that the substitute player was already close to the sideline. The 2nd referee, waving her hands, sent back the player to the team bench. The 1st referee whistled for the service and the rally continued. Was this situation handled correctly?</p>	<p>Ruling The situation is complex. Although the substitute player entered into the substitution zone at the very last moment, the request was still in correct time, before the whistle for the next service. Based on this the team made no fault, and cannot be sanctioned. The 1st referee is obliged to check before his/her authorization for next service, if the teams want to request any game interruption. He/She was not attentive enough in this, missing this duty. The scorer was also not attentive enough, missing the entering player and not pushing the buzzer to acknowledge the substitution request, which was correct. The 2nd referee has the right to whistle at a substitution, when there is no buzzer sound or the scorer is inattentive. With a better collaboration by 1st referee or a more definite attitude by the 2nd referee such situations can be avoided.</p>

<p>9.10 The team 'B' won a rally to lead 7:6. Player #5 of 'B', who was in the wrong rotation order, served and 'B' won a point. The score was now 8:6. A Technical Time-Out was applied and the same player continued to serve until 'B' led 10:6. At that moment, the scorer realized that player #5 had been in the wrong rotation order for some time. The 1st referee applied a penalty (point and service to the opponents) for having the wrong server, and deleted the points gained by 'B' during this period of the game. The game continued after having rectified 'B's' rotation order. Then, when the score reached 8 points again later in the set, no Technical Time-Out was called and the game continued.</p>	<p>Ruling The 1st referee's decision was correct. Technical Time-Outs are an agreed device to allow replays, analysis, and commercial opportunities for TV; much of this is agreed and contracted in advance. Therefore, having already had the first Technical Time-Out in the set, no more should be allowed until the score of the leading team reaches 16 points.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 15.4.1</p>
<p>9.11 The coach of team 'A' attempted to request a substitution late in the set, by calling his substitute player to the substitution zone. The substitute player at first did not hear the coach's summons and was late arriving in the substitution zone. The scorer pressed the buzzer and the game stopped – but by now the 1st referee had whistled for service. The 1st referee cancelled the rally and issued a delay warning and refused to allow the substitution of the player (who was by that time in the substitution zone). An argument with the referees followed. Team 'B' then called a time-out followed by a substitution. 'A' followed this with a substitution request which this time was granted. The game continued with 'A' winning the set and match. Is this a correct ruling by the 1st referee?</p>	<p>Ruling This is not a correct ruling by the 1st referee. His/Her first action to reject the substitution for the delay and to give a delay warning was correct, since the coach had requested the substitution by sending the player into the substitution zone. However, the improper request was the second substitution request by 'A', coming directly after the time-out. Before a team is allowed to have a new request for substitution, there must be a completed rally following the previous request. The final request for a substitution must be rejected without penalty, unless there had been a previous improper request, and recorded in the score sheet.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 15.3.1, 15.3.2, 15.10.3, 15.11.1.3, 16.1.1, 16.1.2, 25.2.2.6</p>
<p>9.12 See Cases 4.25 and 4.26 A substitute player entered the substitution zone slightly after the 1st referee's whistle for service. The scorer pushed the buzzer, and the game stopped. The 1st referee recognized the situation and rejected the request by slightly waving his hand. Meanwhile, both the incoming and outgoing players went to the correct position in the substitution zone ready to perform the substitution. The 1st referee urged the team to serve. At the moment of the service hit, the 2nd referee blew his whistle and signalled a positional fault on the serving team because there were seven players on the court. After a short discussion between the 1st and 2nd referee, the 1st referee whistled again for the service. Was this a correct decision?</p>	<p>Ruling This is a typical case of an improper request. The request for substitution should have been denied, and because of the prolonged interruption and confusion, the team should have been sanctioned for delay. However, if this sanction was not a delay penalty, the team should have been given a replay of the service.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 15.11.1.1</p> <p>The 2nd referee has neither the right nor the responsibility to judge the serving team's positional faults. When the 2nd referee blows his/her whistle in such a case, the rally must be replayed.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 15.11.1, 23.3.2.3a, 24.3.2.2, 25.2.2.6</p>

<p>9.13 See Case 4.29.1</p> <p>During the substitution, when entering the court, the substitute player #5 was hit by #9 so, that he got a bleeding nose. The substitution was already recorded on the score sheet when the bleeding was discovered on the court.</p> <p>What is the correct procedure?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>First of all the referee should request medical assistance to solve the problem. If the player recovered within a reasonable time, the game could continue without a new substitution. If the player cannot recover, a legal substitution should be applied. If no legal substitution is possible an exceptional substitution will be applied.</p> <p>Although removing the bleeding player #5 was the second substitution in the same game interruption, the rule allows this, because player #5 on the court is considered as a “player in play”.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 15.11.1.3</p>
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<p>9.14 See Case 5.7</p> <p>A service specialist substituted into the game for the middle blocker. After she had served, she was replaced by the Libero. When the Libero rotated into the front row, she was replaced by the middle blocker instead of the service specialist.</p> <p>At this moment, the coach recognized that the middle blocker had entered the game illegally, and pushed the buzzer for a normal substitution of the service specialist by the middle blocker –thus attempting to have the middle blocker back on the court so that this substitution could take place legally. Since the 1st referee was prepared to authorize the team to serve, the 2nd referee refused the improper request by the team. On the other hand, the 1st referee recognized that he/she was going to authorize a service in which the team had an illegal player on the court, and so authorized the appropriate substitution and sanctioned the team with a delay warning, with very little disruption of the game.</p> <p>Was this the proper response by the 1st referee?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>Clearly, the 1st referee was a master of the “art of refereeing”.</p> <p>In the spirit of allowing the players to play the game, with little interference from the officials, the 1st referee made the correct decision.</p> <p>If such errors continued by the team, sanctions should be applied.</p>
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<p>9.15 See Case 5.7</p> <p>When the middle blocker of team ‘B’ rotated to serve, his/her coach substituted him by a service specialist. After losing the service, the service specialist was replaced by the Libero.</p> <p>When the Libero had to rotate to the front row, the middle blocker raced onto the court to replace him.</p> <p>After two rallies, team ‘A’ realized that the replacement was not legal because the middle blocker had not been substituted back for the service specialist. Team ‘A’ protested the situation.</p> <p>After a short discussion with the 2nd referee, 1st referee allowed team ‘B’ to substitute the middle blocker into the match for the service specialist with no penalty.</p> <p>Was this the correct ruling?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>There are three parts in the ruling.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At first, since this situation was not clearly provided for in the rules, Rule 23.2.3 states that the 1st referee has the power to decide any matter involving the game, including those not provided for in the rules. • Secondly, given the situation, team B should have been penalized with a point and service to the opponents for an illegal substitution, and the loss of additional points should be confirmed with any evidence including the Libero control sheet (R-6). If the points gained during the illegal situation were able to be identified, they should be deducted from the points of the team B. If not, no additional points should be deducted. To get the
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	<p>middle blocker legally back into the match, team 'B' should have requested a regular substitution for the service specialist.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thirdly, the proper replacement/substitution process for this situation is the following: At the time when the Libero was about to rotate to the front row, he/she should have been replaced by the service specialist. Then the middle blocker should have substituted for the service specialist. These replacements/substitutions must be made in the same interruption of the game. <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 19.3.2.1, 23.2.3</p>
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<p>9.16 The 1st referee whistled for service. At that moment, the serving player realized that the Libero had left the court but had not been replaced, so that his team had only five players on the court. He/she delayed the service as long as possible, but at last he served. At the moment of the service hit, the replacement player on the court was not in the correct position, so clearly committed a positional fault. The teams played the rally which was won by the serving team. The game captain of the opponent team then approached the 1st referee, requesting an explanation of the decision to play the rally. He/she expected his team to win the rally because the serving team committed a positional fault. The 1st referee rejected the plea and allowed the rally to remain as played. What should have been the decision of the 1st referee?</p>	<p>Ruling There were three errors in this situation.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Firstly the 1st referee must not blow the whistle for the service unless the team is ready to play and the server is in possession of the ball. He/she should have delayed the whistle for the service. If this caused a delay, the serving team should have received a delay sanction. 2. The second is that a replacement can only take place before the whistle for service. 3. The third is that the serving team committed a positional fault at the moment of the service hit, so they should have lost the rally. Had the replacement player been in position 4 before the service hit, the rally should have been played and the serving team should have been sanctioned according to Rule 19.3.2.5. <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 7.5.1, 12.3, 19.3.2.3, 19.3.2.5</p>
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<p>9.17 See Case 5.13 During the official warm-up the team's single Libero was injured. The coach asked for a re-designation – the new Libero was requested to be the team captain, who was already recorded already in the score sheet and on the line-up sheet. The 1st referee initially rejected the request because the rules forbid the Libero to be either team or game captain. Was the decision of the referee correct?</p>	<p>Ruling The 1st referee's decision was not correct. If the team has two Liberos, the coach may replace the injured active Libero immediately by the second Libero. If the second Libero becomes injured, the coach may re-designate a new one from one of the players not on the court at the moment of the re-designation. If the team has only one Libero, as in this case, the choice is the same, as in the case of the injured second Libero. The referee's decision in the case described was not correct. While it is true that the Libero cannot be team or game captain the team captain can relinquish his position and all rights and duties pertaining to it, in order to play as the re-designated Libero. Since the team captain was already on the line-up sheet, the sequence of actions should be as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Substitution of the team captain with another player by a regular substitution before the match begins.
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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Request by the coach to appoint a new team captain. 3. Re-designation of the new Libero. 4. Request from the referee that the new Libero changes his / her uniform to that of a Libero (or covers his/ her own uniform by a bib or a jacket kept for the purpose in the reserve equipment). 5. Request the scorer to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-register the original team captain as the new or re-designated Libero (to replace the original Libero), • Register the new team captain. <p>The details of these re-registrations/ re-designations must be written in the “REMARKS” box of the score sheet.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 5, 19.1.5, 19.2, 19.3.2.8</p>
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<p>9.18 See Case 5.14</p> <p>The Libero of a team became injured during the match, and the 2nd referee authorized the medical doctor, with the coach in attendance, to be on the court for checking the seriousness of the injury. They decided to take the Libero out of the court and send the replaced player back on the court. After he/she was led off the court, the Libero claimed he had recovered and insisted on returning to the court to play. The referees allowed the Libero to go back on the court and to resume the match.</p> <p>Was this correct?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>No, it should not have been allowed. Even though it was the case of injury, the Libero could be replaced through a regular replacement. Also, the Libero still has the right to participate in the match until he/she is declared unable to continue (Rule 19.4.2).</p> <p>Thus, this situation was a mistake because two consecutive replacements took place without any rally in between. This is a case for illegal Libero replacement. According to the rules, at the moment of the second replacement, the referee should reject it, and the 1st referee should issue a delay sanction.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 19.3.2.1, 19.3.2.8</p>
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<p>9.19</p> <p>The coach decided to replace the Acting Libero #7 by the second Libero #1. He/she sent the second Libero with the paddle #7 to the substitution zone, where the replacement was made like a substitution. The 2nd referee informed the scorer to record this in the Remarks box of the score sheet.</p> <p>Was this procedure correct?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>The replacement of the Liberos should have been made in the Libero Replacement Zone without any formality, i.e. without numbered paddles. One Libero can replace the other one freely now, provided there is a completed rally in between.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 19.3.2.1, 19.3.2.2, 19.3.2.7, 19.3.2.8</p>
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<p>9.20</p> <p>A Libero played the ball within the front zone with an overhand finger action. The direction of the ball took it above the net where it was hit by his/her attacker and almost at the same time by the opponent blocker.</p> <p>What should the referees consider in their decision?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>A Libero may make an overhand action in the front zone. A Libero may direct the ball to the opponent by an overhand action. It is a fault, however, for the attacker to complete an attack hit from an overhand finger pass if the Libero makes the overhand finger action from the front zone and at the moment of the attack hit the ball was entirely higher than the top of the net. The attack hit becomes complete when the ball completely crosses the plane of the net or contacts the block.</p> <p>In this situation there are 3 options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • attacker hits the ball first: attacker completed an
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	<p>attack within the above condition. Team B serves next.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • attacker and blocker hit the ball simultaneously: since the hit was made above the net, i.e. where both players have right to play the ball, the blocker's hit in the same moment of the attack hit was legal. However the attacker completed his/her attack, when the blocker hit the ball - it means he/she made an attack hit fault. Team B serves next. • blocker hits the ball first: since the blocker blocked a legal attack hit made by the Libero, no fault was committed. The attacker's play should be considered as a block. The rally is to be continued. <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 19.3.1.4</p>
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<p>9.21 See Substitution Cases</p> <p>The coach of 'B' requested a time-out. The 2nd referee whistled for it.</p> <p>The 1st referee did not hear the 2nd referee's whistle and he authorized the service by 'A'.</p> <p>The 2nd referee whistled again to allow the requested time-out. Amidst some confusion, the 1st referee awarded a delay warning to 'B'.</p> <p>Later in the same set, a server of 'B' was sanctioned for delaying the game. This second delay sanction for 'B' in the same match resulted in a delay penalty and gave 'A' a point. This was point 24 and took team 'A' to match point which they subsequently won.</p> <p>Team 'B' vehemently protested against the delay sanctions.</p> <p>Were they justified in their protest?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>Team 'B' had a good reason to protest.</p> <p>In instances in which the referees have had a genuine misunderstanding, the team should not be penalized. Thus the first delay warning was probably not justified.</p> <p>Had this been the case, the second instance would have merited only a delay warning and the protest of 'B' would have never taken place.</p> <p>On the other hand, team 'B' should have registered their right to file a protest at the time of the first delay sanction. Once they fail to do this, they give up the right to protest against the decisions of the 1st referee.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 5.1.2.1</p>
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<p>9.22</p> <p>During the second set, the scoreboard which could be seen by the spectators was not correct.</p> <p>Immediately, the emotional coach of 'A' challenged the scorer, the referee, and the Control Committee. He/she was supported by his Head of Delegation who appeared at the Control Committee table from the spectator seats reserved for Heads of Delegation.</p> <p>The 1st referee whistled the game captain of 'A' and explained that he/she was sanctioning the coach with a penalty for rude conduct. Although the game captain had to communicate this to his/her coach, he/she did not do so. Furthermore, in the resulting confusion, the 2nd referee missed the sanctioning of the coach and the penalty for the rude conduct was not recorded on the score sheet.</p> <p>The score was corrected and the game continued without any mention of an incident recorded on the score sheet.</p> <p>How should this incident have been handled?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>The initial error was that of the scorer.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 25.2.2.1</p> <p>The second one was that of the scoreboard operator. The third one was that of the assistant scorer for not checking with the official scorer to be certain that they were each in agreement.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 26.2.2.5</p> <p>The 1st referee, via his 2nd referee, should have been certain that the penalty was recorded on the score sheet. Rule 25.2.2.6</p> <p>The game captain should have communicated the misconduct to his/her coach. When he/she did not do this, he/she should have been sanctioned.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 21</p> <p>The Control Committee was incorrect in allowing the Head of Delegation to approach the Control Committee's table. The Game Jury President should have stopped the match and after a consultation with the 2nd referee and the scorer or e-scorer, if used,</p>
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	<p>he/she should decide upon the continuation of the match.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">See Refereeing Guidelines and Instructions. Rules 25.2.2.6, 25.2.2.7</p>
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<p>9.23 At the start of a set, 'A' had player #11 in position 6 instead of player #15 who was written in the line-up sheet. During the check of the line-up the 2nd referee did not realize the discrepancy. After the line-up check, player #11 was immediately replaced by the Libero. Later on the Libero was replaced by player #11. The first TTO happened at the score of 8:5 for 'A'. After the TTO player #11 was preparing to serve. The 2nd referee signaled the wrong player on the court and started to explain the fault to the game captain and the coach. It was a long discussion and the 1st referee also came down from his chair. After a check of the Libero control sheet, it was obvious, that player #11 was in the game since the start of this set. So the 1st referee decided to cancel all points of 'A'. The points of 'B' remained valid and they were awarded the service at the score of 5:0 for 'B'. Some rallies later, when 'B' led 8:5, the TTO was given again. Was it the correct procedure by the referees?</p>	<p>Ruling It is a very complex situation with some mistakes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first mistake was committed at the beginning of the set. The line-up of 'A' was not according to the line-up sheet. The 2nd referee did not realize this discrepancy. • The second mistake happened after the TTO. 'B' should have been given an additional point as penalty for the positional fault of 'A', so the score had to be 6:0 for 'B'. • The third mistake was to give a second TTO, when 'B' reached the 8th point. <p>If there had been a Control Committee at this match, the Game Jury President also had to check the line-up and to intervene and correct the situation.</p>
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<p>9.24 The referee decided team 'B' would serve for the next rally. Immediately 'B' substituted player #1 by player #9. Meanwhile the 1st referee changed his decision due to the line judge's signal and gave the rally to 'A'. Realising this situation, the coach of 'B' requested to delete the substitution and rectify the line-up. The 2nd referee permitted this and the game continued with the "original" line-up of 'B'. Was this procedure correct?</p>	<p>Ruling Since the 1st referee changed his decision, which was the basis of 'B's' substitution, in the spirit of the game the coach's request could be accepted. No substitution would be charged against this team.</p>
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<p>9.25 See Case 4.27 During a rally a player received a blood injury. After the end of the rally the 1st referee called him/her and instructed him/her to ask for immediate medical help to stop the bleeding, because it is forbidden to play with a still bleeding wound. The treatment lasted about one minute. After the bleeding was stopped, the game continued. Was the procedure by the 1st referee correct?</p>	<p>Ruling It is not allowed to play with a bleeding wound, independent of the seriousness of the injury. Referees have to stop the game immediately after realizing the nature of the injury and instruct the player to ask for a medical intervention. The team is not obliged to substitute the player. Therefore, it was an acceptable procedure by the 1st referee to give neither a delay sanction nor to ask the team for a game interruption. Decision of the Medical Commission of FIVB</p>
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<p>9.26(ex 3.28)</p> <p>The player #1 was ready to serve. His game captain requested confirmation of the correct server. The scorer gave the information that player #6 should be the server. The game captain doubted this information and insisted again that player #1 should be the server. He was still not satisfied and while attempting to approach him, the 1st referee whistled for service. Amidst confusion, the team was penalized for not serving within the allowed 8 seconds.</p> <p>In the score sheet it was found that the coach of the team had submitted an incorrect line-up, which had player #6 in two positions. It should have been #6 and #1. Number #1 should have been serving as the game captain had surmised. What is the correct ruling by the 1st referee?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>Common sense must prevail in resolving this case. The initial error was that of the coach, when he/she submitted his incorrect line-up. This was compounded by the inattention of the 2nd referee and the scorer.</p> <p>Therefore, the team should not be penalized for the incorrect server, and player #1 should be allowed to serve.</p> <p>On the other hand, the original error of the coach caused a delay of the game, thus a delay sanction must be applied.</p> <p>Furthermore, the 2nd referee must request immediately after discovering and clarifying the situation a new line-up sheet from the coach and the score sheet should be corrected</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules of the Game Commission decision</p>
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<p>9.27 (new)</p> <p>A player of team “B” attacked the ball after 1st referee blown his whistle to finishing the rally. Because of the hard attack, the ball hit the head of a player of team “A”, who was celebrating the point gained by his team. This action provoked the reaction of all teammates of the team “A” player, which crossed under the net to the opponent court trying to lash the player #9 team “B” for his bad behaviour. A great confusion happened intervening all persons involved in the game, including top authorities, in order to control the turbulent situation. When the calm returned, 1st referee directed the player #19 of the team “A” to the referee chair and disqualified him for having beaten an opponent. (1st referee saw this action during the tumultuous situation). Then, 1st referee calls the player #9 of the team “B” to the referee chair and sanctioned him with a Penalty, due to his action of hitting the ball after the whistle. These were the only sanctions. How can the referee manage this action, when the complete team is involved in a kind of “attempt to aggression”?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>The 1st referee applied correctly the sanction rule and the sequence of sanctions when two opponents had unsportsmanlike behaviour.</p> <p>It is obvious that the player committed the physical attack against the opponent should be immediately disqualified. However the behaviour of the spiker hitting the ball towards the opponent after the whistle of 1st referee should be considered as rude conduct.</p> <p>In such situations the heavier sanction should be issued first, then the other one. Should both sanctions be equal in weight, the serving team is punished first.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 21.2.1, 21.2.3</p>
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<p>10.1 (new)</p> <p>Three substitute players entered the substitution zone. After the request was recognized and acknowledged by the scorer, and the horn sounded, the coach decided to make only two substitutions. What is the procedure for the 2nd referee?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>This is legal as long as this does not cause a delay. Therefore the 2nd referee simply carries out a double substitution. However, the scorer must pay attention to which combination of players actually occurs and must not press “accept all” in this instance.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 15.10.2, 15.10.3a, 15.10.4, 16.1</p>
<p>10.2 (new)</p> <p>Data for two substitutions was sent by the coach. One substitute player entered the substitution zone while another one was just leaving the warm-up area to try to enter the substitution zone. How many substitutions should be allowed under the current rules?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>The moment of the request is the entrance of the substitute player(s) into the substitution zone. In this case the 2nd referee should grant only the one for the player who actually entered the substitution zone.</p> <p>The second action should be rejected as not a real request. In such a situation the 2nd referee has the right to wave away the player trying to enter the substitution in order to prevent an improper request. With such action the 2nd referee understood very well what is the "art of refereeing".</p> <p>Since the result of the next rally may cause the coach to change his mind, the data for the disallowed substitution will be deleted. Should he wish to make a new request for substitution involving this player, he would need to send the data again. In this case the scorer should only accept the one substitution on the e-score computer, and not press “accept all”.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 15.10.3a, 15.10.3b, 15.11.1.3</p>
<p>10.3 (new)</p> <p>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 (wrong paddle/ no paddle/ track suit, etc.), his team was sanctioned with a delay warning and the substitution was rejected. As soon as the delay sanction was applied, the team again requested the substitution. Was it allowed to make this second request during the same interruption?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>The substitution was not legal and therefore not allowed. As the first request for substitution was rejected, the team was not authorized to request a second consecutive substitution in the same interruption. At least one rally must be completed before there can be another request for substitution by the same team. However, a penalty awarded against either team at this moment counts as a completed rally.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 15.3.2</p>

<p>10.4 (new)</p> <p>Using the Tablet, the substitution information had been sent by the team; the substitute player had entered the substitution zone, the scorer had sounded the horn – but the player had the “wrong” numbered paddle. He fumbled to get the correct one. The 1st referee awarded a delay sanction, but allowed the substitution. Is this the correct response by the 1st referee?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>The action by the 1st referee was not correct. In FIVB, World and Official Competitions, the substitute player must enter the substitution zone with the correct “numbered paddle”. Thus, the request for substitution by the team must be rejected, and a delay sanction must be awarded. It is possible that this combination of players was a legal substitution – so the scorer was not necessarily wrong in sounding the horn.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 15.10.3a, 16.1.1, 16.2</p>
<p>10.5 (new)</p> <p>Using the Tablet, the coach transmits data for a substitution but the substitute player steps into the substitution zone just as the whistle sounds for service, should the 2nd referee permit the substitution?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>Generally this situation is a typical case of an improper request: reject and allow the game to continue. However, if the game has been stopped due to this request (e.g. the scorer sounds the horn, the player on court goes to the substitution zone or the teams wait for the referee’s decision, etc.) it should be considered as delay. The substitution should not be granted, and a warning or penalty for delay will result. The scorer has a responsibility not to sound the horn if the 1st referee has blown the whistle.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 15.10.3a, 16.2</p>
<p>10.6 (new)</p> <p>A player became injured and had to be substituted exceptionally. During the same game interruption, the team transmitted data and sent in a player to the substitution zone – i.e. they requested an additional substitution during the interruption. The 2nd referee accepted the request. Was the 2nd referee’s decision correct to accept the request?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>Yes, the 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.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 15.7</p>
<p>10.7 (new)</p> <p>A player listed on the line-up transmitted by the team was injured before the start of the match. Can he be substituted before the match?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>Yes – but it should be shown formally by substitution signal (coach and 2nd referee so that everyone understands the situation) and must be recorded on the e-score sheet as a regular substitution.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rules 7.3.2, 7.3.4</p>
<p>10.8 (new)</p> <p>A player arrived in the substitution zone – but no data had been transmitted. How is this handled?</p>	<p>Ruling</p> <p>As there is no data, this situation is a typical case of an improper request: reject and allow the game to continue. The scorer has nothing to accept – so there can be no buzzer.</p>

APPENDIX

Here the cases are listed with the numbers of the concerning rules. The case numbers are hyperlinked with the cases, and from the cases you can come back to this appendix.

Case number	Rule (1)	Rule (2)	Rule (3)	Rule (4)	Rule (5)	Rule (6)	Rule (7)
OBJECTS							
1.01	4.5.1	4.5.3					
1.02	4.5.1						
CAPTAIN							
1.03	5.1.2	20.1	20.2	21.2	21.3.1		
1.04	5.1.2.2						
1.05	5.1.2.2						
1.06	5.1.2.1	20.2.1					
1.07	5.1.2.1	23.2.4					
COACH							
1.08							
1.09	5.1.2	5.2.3.4	21.1	21.2	21.3		
1.10	5.2.1	5.2.3.3	5.3.1				
1.11	5.2.3.2	5.2.3.4	5.3.1				
1.12	5.2.3.4						
1.13							
THE TOSS							
2.01	7.1.2						
POSITION/ROTATIONAL FAULTS							
2.02	7.4	7.4.2	7.4.3				
2.03	7.4.3	7.5					
2.04	1.3.3	7.4					
2.05	7.7.1	23.2.3					
2.06							
2.07	7.5	7.7	12.3	12.4.3			
PLAYING THE BALL							
3.01	10.1.2	10.1.2.2					
3.02	9.2.1	9.2.2	9.3.3	9.3.4			
3.03	9.2.3.2	14.2					
3.04	9.2.2	9.2.3.2	14.2				
3.05	9.2.2						
3.06	9	9.1.3					
3.07	9	9.1.3					
3.08							
3.09	10.1.2						
3.10.1	8.4.1	8.4.2	9.1	10.1.2	10.1.2.1	10.1.2.2	
3.10.2	9						
3.10.3	10.1.2.2						

PENETRATION UNDER THE NET							
<u>3.11</u>	11.2.1	11.2.2.1	11.2.4				
<u>3.12</u>	11.2.1						
PLAYER AT OR CONTACTING THE NET							
<u>3.13</u>	11.3.1	11.4.4					
<u>3.14</u>	9	11.2.1					
<u>3.15</u>	9.1.2.2	9.1.2.3					
<u>3.16</u>	11.3.1	11.4.4					
<u>3.17</u>	11.3.1	11.4.4					
<u>3.18</u>	11.3.1	11.4.4					
<u>3.19</u>	11.3.1	11.4.4					
<u>3.20</u>	11.3.1	11.4.4					
<u>3.21.1</u>	11.3.1	11.3.2	11.4.4				
<u>3.21.2</u>	11.3.1	11.4.4					
<u>3.22.1</u>	11.3.1	11.4.4					
<u>3.22.2</u>	11.3.1	11.4.4					
SERVICE							
<u>3.23</u>	7.71	12.2.1	12.7.1	25.2.2.2			
<u>3.24</u>	12.4.4						
<u>3.25</u>	12.4.2						
<u>3.26</u>	8.4.3	27.2.1.3					
<u>3.27</u>	12.6.2.1						
<u>3.28</u>	See Case 9.26						
<u>3.29</u>	12.6.2.1						
ATTACK HIT							
<u>3.30</u>	13.1.3						
<u>3.31</u>	13.1.1	13.1.3	13.2.2	13.3.3			
<u>3.32</u>	13.1.1	14.3					
<u>3.33</u>	9.1	13.1.3	13.2.2	13.3.3			
<u>3.34</u>	13.3.4	19.3.1.3					
BLOCK							
<u>3.35</u>	14.1.1	14.1.3	14.6.2				
<u>3.36</u>	14.1.1	14.3					
<u>3.37</u>	14.1.1						
<u>3.38</u>	11.2.1						
<u>3.39</u>	11.1.2	14.1.1	14.2	14.3			
<u>3.40</u>							
<u>3.41</u>	9.1	14.2	14.4.1				
<u>3.42</u>	13.3.1	13.3.3	14.1.1	14.6.1	14.6.2		
<u>3.43</u>	9.3.1	14.1.1					
<u>3.44</u>	9.1	14.1.1	14.4.1				
<u>3.45</u>	9.1	14.1.1	14.4.1				
<u>3.46</u>	19.3.1.3						

SUBSTITUTIONS							
<u>4.01</u>	15.10.2	15.10.3a	15.10.4	16.1			
<u>4.02</u>	15.10.3a	15.10.3b	15.11.1.3				
<u>4.03</u>	15.3.2						
<u>4.04</u>	15.10.3a	16.1.1	16.2				
<u>4.05</u>	15.10.3	16.2					
<u>4.06</u>	16.1.1	16.2					
<u>4.07</u>	15.7						
<u>4.08</u>	15.7						
<u>4.09</u>	7.3.2	7.3.4					
<u>4.10</u>	15.9.2						
<u>4.11</u>	15.5	15.6	15.11	16.1			
<u>4.12</u>	15.7						
<u>4.13</u>	15.6	16.1.3					
<u>4.14</u>							
<u>4.15</u>	16.1.1	23.2.3					
<u>4.16</u>	7.3.5.2	7.3.5.3					
<u>4.17</u>	15.10.3a	15.10.3c	16.1.1				
<u>4.18</u>	15.11.2	16.1.1					
<u>4.19</u>	15.10.3a	15.10.3c					
<u>4.20</u>	4.1.3	4.2.2	5.1.1	5.2.2	7.3.5.4	15.9.2	
<u>4.21</u>	15.2.2						
<u>4.22.1</u>	7.3.5.2						
<u>4.22.2</u>	6.1.3	15	15.2.1	15.11.1.3			
TO/TTO							
<u>4.23</u>	15.4.1						
<u>4.24</u>	15.4.2						
IMPROPER REQUEST							
<u>4.25</u>	15.3.1	15.3.2	15.10.3a	15.11.1.3	25.2.2.6		
<u>4.26.1</u>	15.11.1.4	16.1.5	25.2.2.6				
<u>4.26.2</u>	15.5	16.1					
INJURIES							
<u>4.27</u>	4.4	15.5	15.10.2	15.10.3a	17.1.1		
<u>4.28</u>	15.7	17.1.2					
<u>4.29.1</u>	15.11.1.3						
<u>4.29.2</u>	4.1.3	5.1	5.2.1	5.2.2	19.4.2.5	25.2.2.7	
<u>4.29.3</u>	15.11.1.3						
DELAYS TO THE GAME							
<u>4.30</u>	6.4.1	16.1					
<u>4.31</u>	16.1.2	16.1.5					
<u>4.32</u>	1.5	5.1.2.2	6.4.1	16.2			
<u>4.33</u>	4.2	6.4.1	6.4.2	18.1			
EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE							
<u>4.34</u>	17.2	17.3					
<u>4.35</u>							
<u>4.36</u>	17.2						

LIBERO							
<u>5.01</u>	19.3.2.4	19.3.2.8	24.3.1				
<u>5.02</u>	6.4.3	15.7	15.8				
<u>5.03</u>	15.5	15.7	17				
<u>5.04</u>	6.4.3	19.1.1	19.3.2	19.3.2.8	19.4		
<u>5.05</u>	15.3.2	19.3.2	19.3.2.8				
<u>5.06</u>	19.3.2.5						
<u>5.07</u>	19.3.2.1	19.3.2.9	23.2.3				
<u>5.08</u>	7.5.1	12.3	19.3.2.3	19.3.2.5			
<u>5.09</u>	19.1.3	19.3.2.2	19.3.2.8	19.4.2			
<u>5.10</u>	5.2.3.4						
<u>5.11</u>	19.3.2.1	19.3.2.2					
<u>5.12</u>	15.9	19.3.1.1	26.2.2.1	26.2.2.2			
<u>5.13</u>	5	19.2	19.3.2.8	19.4.2.5			
<u>5.14</u>	19.3.2.9	23.2.3					
<u>5.15</u>	19.3.2.1						
<u>5.16</u>	19.3.2.1	19.3.2.8					
<u>5.17</u>	19.3.2.8	Diag. 1					
<u>5.18</u>	19.3.2.1						
<u>5.19</u>	19.3.2.2	19.3.2.8					
<u>5.20</u>	19.1.2						
<u>5.21</u>	19.2						
<u>5.22</u>	14.1.1	14.1.2	14.1.3				
<u>5.23</u>	6.1.3	19.3.2.1	19.3.2				
<u>5.24</u>	19.3.2.8	19.4.2.1	19.4.2.4				
CONDUCT							
<u>6.01</u>	21.1	21.2					
<u>6.02</u>	21.2.1	21.3					
<u>6.03</u>	5.2	21.1	21.2	21.3			
<u>6.04</u>	21.5						
<u>6.05</u>	21.2	21.2.1	21.3				
<u>6.06</u>	21.1	21.2	21.3				
<u>6.07</u>	21						
<u>6.08</u>							
<u>6.09</u>	6.4.3	15.8					
REFEREES RESPONSABILITIES							
<u>7.01</u>	23.3.2.2						
<u>7.02</u>	4.2.1	4.2.3	24.2.4	24.2.5			
<u>7.03</u>	25.2.2						
<u>7.04</u>	5.1.2.1	5.1.3.2	23.2.4				
<u>7.05</u>							
<u>7.06</u>	15.1	15.2.1	15.11	16.1	16.2	24.2.6	24.2.7
<u>7.07</u>							
<u>7.08</u>	15.4.4						
<u>7.09</u>	5.2.3.4	5.3.1					
<u>7.10</u>	5.1.2						
<u>7.11</u>	24.7	Guidelines and Instructions					
<u>7.12</u>	8.4.3						

SPECIAL CASES							
<u>8.01</u>							
<u>8.02</u>	17.2						
<u>8.03</u>	17.3.2.2						
<u>8.04</u>	9.1.3						
<u>8.05</u>							
EXTENDED CASES							
<u>9.01</u>	14.3						
<u>9.02</u>	13.3.3	14.3	14.6.1	Diag. 7			
<u>9.03</u>	13.3.1	14.1.1	14.6.2				
<u>9.04</u>	15.7	15.8					
<u>9.05</u>	15.7						
<u>9.06</u>							
<u>9.07</u>	15.11.2	16.1.1					
<u>9.08</u>	15.10.3a	15.10.3c					
<u>9.09</u>							
<u>9.10</u>	15.4.1						
<u>9.11</u>	15.3.1	15.3.2	15.10.3	15.11.1.3	16.1.1	16.1.2	25.2.2.6
<u>9.12</u>	15.11.1.1	23.3.2.3a	24.3.2.2	25.2.2.6			
<u>9.13</u>	15.11.1.3						
<u>9.14</u>							
<u>9.15</u>	19.3.2.1	23.2.3					
<u>9.16</u>	7.5.1	12.3	19.3.2.3	19.3.2.5			
<u>9.17</u>	5	19.1.5	19.2	19.3.2.8			
<u>9.18</u>	19.3.2.1	19.3.2.8					
<u>9.19</u>	19.3.2.1	19.3.2.2	19.3.2.7	19.3.2.8			
<u>9.20</u>	19.3.1.4						
<u>9.21</u>	5.1.2.1						
<u>9.22</u>	25.2.2.1	26.2.2.5	25.2.2.6	21	25.2.2.7		
<u>9.23</u>							
<u>9.24</u>							
<u>9.25</u>	Medical Commission						
<u>9.26</u>	RGC						
<u>9.27</u>	21.2.1	21.2.3					

USING TABLET CASES							
<u>10.1</u>	15.10.2	15.10.3a	15.10.4	16.1			
<u>10.2</u>	15.10.3a	15.10.3b	15.11.1.3				
<u>10.3</u>	15.3.2						
<u>10.4</u>	15.10.3a	16.1.1	16.2				
<u>10.5</u>	15.10.3a	16.2					
<u>10.6</u>	15.7						
<u>10.7</u>	7.3.2	7.3.4					
<u>10.8</u>							

