

# FIVB OFFICIAL VOLLEYBALL RULES 2017 – 2020

## Changes to Previous Edition.

The new rules were agreed at the 35<sup>th</sup> Congress in 2016 and became effective in competition from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017.

They do not include any major changes to the current rules in use but there are some minor alterations and clarifications of certain rules which for the most part affect the International game (or in FIVB parlance “for FIVB, World and Official competitions”; where this is referred to in this briefing it will be shown as FWOC).

### Rules Amendments

#### Rule 1.1 Court Dimensions

FWOC – the word ‘minimum’ has been removed from the text clarifying the court size as ‘the free zone shall measure 5m from the side lines and 6.5m from the end line..’

*VE implication – for VE competition finals, NEVZA and teams playing in CEV club competition.*

#### 2.5 Posts

FWOC – the addition of ‘and must be padded.’ This ensures that posts must have the necessary protection.

*VE implication – for NVL is this part of the playing regulations?*

#### Rule 4.1 Team Composition

FWOC – addition for clarification ‘The Team Manager or Team Journalist may not sit on or behind the bench in the Control Area’ and also ‘Any Medical Doctor or team therapist... **must** be part of the official delegation..’ where the previous rules said ‘should’.

The rules also now note that ‘The Official Regulations for each event will be found in the Specific Competition Handbook’ – this refers to the fact that even in FIVB competitions e.g. WL and WGP there are different regulations in place.

#### Rule 4.3 Equipment

4.3.3 the rule on player numbers between 1-20 now notes that ‘in FWOC for Seniors, where larger squads are used, numbers may be extended’

*VE – this is determined by specific competition regulation and can be altered as required.*

#### 4.5 Forbidden Objects

4.5.3 the rule allows compression pads but has added from the Sport Regulations the notes that for FWOC the colours may now include ‘Black, white or neutral colours..’ It remains that all players must wear the same colour.

*VE – referees should note the wording change here. Unfortunately, the rule now seems to allow fluorescent colours as long as the whole team is wearing them.*

#### Rule 5.2 Coach

5.2.2 on prior to the match now includes for e-score the wording that the coach checks the players on the ‘scoresheet team roster, and then signs it’.

5.2.3.4 clarifies for FWOC that the coach must remain behind the coach’s restriction line ‘throughout the entire match’.

#### Rule 6.1 To score a point

6.1.1.1 has a wording change with the word ‘landing’ replacing ‘grounding’

6.1.3 on Rally and Completed now changes the wording to be more explicit in what constitutes a completed rally. The old wording used a phrase ‘out-with’ and this is now clarified as ‘loss of service for service hit made after the time limit’

#### Rule 7.3 Team Starting Line up

7.3.2 notes the introduction of e-bench that the line-up sheet may be sent electronically direct to the scorer

7.3.5.4 has changed the words scoresheet with team roster but essentially means the same thing; this again refers to e-score

#### Rule 7.5 Positional Fault

7.5.1 the rule is clarified in the case of an illegal substitution ‘... When a player is on court through illegal substitution, and play restarts, this is counted as a positional fault with the consequences of illegal substitution.’

#### Rule 7.7 Rotational Fault

7.7.1.1 the text clarifies that ‘the scorer stops play with the buzzer;’ and then on what happens if the rally has been played and the rotational fault has then been identified ‘...If the rotational fault is determined only after the completion of a rally which started with a rotational fault, only a single point is awarded to the opponent, regardless of the result of the rally played.

*VE – therefore regardless the rally is ignored and the result is a point to the opponent. If the rally has been won by the receiving team they do not get two points. If the serving team wins the rally then this is ignored and the point is awarded to the opponent.*

#### Rule 11.3 Contact with the net

11.3.1 in order to help referees understand the the playing action the words the definition is extended and reads ‘The action of playing the ball includes (among others) take-off, hit (or attempt) and landing **safely, ready for a new action.**’

#### Rule 12.5 Screening

12.5.2 the rule wording is extended to help referees understand how to apply the screen rule. In addition to describing how a team creates a screen the wording is amended to say ‘.. and in so doing hides both the server and the flight path of the ball **until the ball reaches the vertical plane of the net.**’

*VE – therefore referees should note that the screen cannot be called if the players ‘creating’ the screen do not maintain the screen when the ball is still on their side of the net.*

#### Rule 15.2 Sequence of Regular Game Interruptions

15.2.3 the rule now clarifies that there can be two separate requests for substitution where this is required because of injury, expulsion/ disqualification.

*VE – this now includes within the rules the common sense requirement in these situations to allow two separate substitutions in the same interruption.*

#### 15.4 Time out and Technical Time Outs

15.4.4 the wording now includes that Technical Time outs are the same as Time outs and the team ‘must go to the free zone near their bench’.

*VE – the key point here is that at a time out the players should be in front of their bench and nowhere else in the free zone.*

#### 15.10 Substitution Procedure

15.10.3c FWOc wording added ‘...(including when electronic devices are used)’. This clarifies as there was talk that where the e-bench system was used then paddles would not be required. This confirms that paddles are required in all circumstances.

#### 15.11 Improper Requests

15.11.1.3 the rule confirms that a second request for substitution in the same interruption is an improper request except in the case of injury or expulsion / disqualification and clarifies the interruption is ‘..before the end of the next completed rally’).

*VE – there has been some recent instances where a team has requested a substitution where a rally has been stopped and replayed and the team has requested a substitution before the rally could be re-started at service. This rule gives further evidence that a substitution should not be permitted (unless because of injury etc) regardless of whether the team requested a substitution in the interruption before the start of the truncated rally.*

#### Rule 23.3 1<sup>st</sup> Referee Responsibilities

23.3.2.3 The rule which lists the situations where the 1<sup>st</sup> referee can decide upon now include tow further situations:

h) the ball that crosses the net totally or partly outside of the crossing space to the opponent’s court or contacts the antenna on his/her side of the playing court

i) the served ball and the 3<sup>rd</sup> hit passing over or outside the antenna on his/her side of the court

#### Rule 24.3 2<sup>nd</sup> Referee Responsibilities

24.3.2.8 has been added and says 'the served ball and the 3<sup>rd</sup> hit passing over or outside the antenna on his/her side of the court.'

*VE – this clarifies as the situation h) in the 1<sup>st</sup> referee responsibilities already exists for the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee (24.3.2.7) and the second clause has been added to both referees. This allows for the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee to whistle balls which pass over or outside the crossing space which has been whistled by some referees and not others. It should be noted that where the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee does not whistle then the 1<sup>st</sup> referee must still act on the line judge signal for the ball being out. However the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee does not need to wait for the ball to be 'dead' in order to call this fault.*

*For the served ball the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee must recognise and use the correct signal for a served ball not passing through the crossing space (signal 19)*

#### Rule 25 Scorer & Rule 26 Assistant Scorer

The rules for the scorer acknowledge that the e-score now predominates in FWOC and that the scorer should not stop any checks because of this. For example 25.2.1.2 states that the scorer records the starting line-up of each team from the line-up sheet (or checks the data submitted electronically). Rule 26.2.3.2 adds that for FWOC and where e-score is used the AS **acts with the scorer to announce substitutions, to direct the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee to the team requesting an interruption**, and identify the Libero replacements.

*VE – this highlights the need of the Scorer and Assistant Scorer to be working together at all times and to proactive in managing the game.*

#### Section 3 Diagrams

##### Diagram 1a Competition Control Area

The Diagram 1a shows now the detailed court layout for competition and with the measurements added, for example the bench should only be 5.8m in length (who knew?).

*VE – please note that the court diagram for CEV competition no longer shows the moppers but has one seat for a quick mopper placed at the back of the court on side by the advertising in front of the warm-up areas. The FIVB still shows three seats in each position for moppers. For CEV moppers are optional but check the specific competition regulations.*

##### Diagram 9 Misconduct Warnings and Sanctions

Minor Misconduct has been added to the table of sanctions showing the Stage 1 and Stage 2 approach as a warning to the teams.

#### Definitions

##### Ball Retrievers and Moppers

Moppers are added and the definition reads: 'Moppers: are personnel whose job it is to keep the floor clean and dry. They mop the court before the match, between the sets and , if necessary, after each rally.'