



NCAA MEN'S VOLLEYBALL RULES MODIFICATION DOCUMENT

***2020
UPDATED OCTOBER 2019***



IF *i* LOSE

I'LL RESPOND WITH RESPECT.

Don't undo my hard work
with poor sportsmanship.



RESPECT.
It's the name of the game.

IF YOU THINK YOU OR YOUR TEAMMATE HAS HAD A
CONCUSSION

DON'T HIDE IT. • REPORT IT. • TAKE TIME TO RECOVER.



**IT'S BETTER TO MISS ONE GAME THAN THE WHOLE SEASON.
WHEN IN DOUBT, GET CHECKED OUT.**

For more information and resources, visit www.NCAA.org/health-and-safety and www.CDC.gov/Concussion



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NCAA Men's Volleyball Committees

The charts below lists the members of the committee that voted on and approved the rules included in this edition of the rules modification document. This information is being included for historical purposes.

National Collegiate Men's Volleyball Committee

Name	Institution	Term Expiration
Ashley Armstrong	University of California, Los Angeles	9-1-2021
Timothy Heffron	Purdue University Fort Wayne	9-1-2022
Leonard Kaplan	New Jersey Institute of Technology	9-1-2020

Division III Men's Volleyball Committee

Name	Institution	Term Expiration
John Garrett	Hunter College	9-1-2020
Evin Giglio	Wentworth Institute of Technology	9-1-2021
Daniel Liberto	State University of New York Polytechnic Institute	9-1-2019
Michael Zapolski	Augustana College	9-1-2022

For a complete and current listing of the NCAA Men's Volleyball Committee rosters are available online at www.ncaa.org/playingrules.

Rules Process Overview

The NCAA competes using the USA Volleyball Domestic Competition Regulations (DCR) as the standard playing rules for the sport of NCAA men's volleyball. All rules are applicable to Division III and National Collegiate competition unless modified by this document. All NCAA men's volleyball competition is to be conducted under the rules of the DCR with any modifications approved by the specific divisional championship committee. Any rules specific to the NCAA championship can be found in the divisional Pre-Championships Manual.

The following modifications have been recommended by the NCAA National Collegiate and Division III Men's Volleyball Committees and approved by the Playing Rules Oversight Panel (PROP).

Any questions concerning rules and interpretations should be directed to:

*Ben Brownlee
Assistant Director
NCAA Championships and Alliances
Email: bbrownlee@ncaa.org
Phone: 317-917-6222*

Rules Modifications

RULE	MODIFICATION
Sportsmanship Point of Emphasis USAV - DCR Chapter 7, Rules 20 and 21.	Sportsmanlike conduct and minor acts of misconduct are defined by Chapter 7, Rule 20 and Rule 21 of the USAV - DCR. Student-athletes on the court and in the bench area must conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner during all men's volleyball competition. Officials must enforce the USAV-DCR playing rules as written.
DCR - 1.4.5 *Division III Modification	Institutions must place a 3 meter restraining line on the surface, painted or with tape, five feet from the sideline on the bench side of the court. The line will begin at the end of the bench area. Student-athletes and bench personnel not seated at the bench are required to remain behind the restraining line during play.
DCR - 4.2.3.2	Ball handling during timeouts shall be permitted in the free zone.
DCR - 4.2.4	Attacking between sets shall be permitted into own court.
DCR - 4.5.1	No visible jewelry permitted.
DCR - 7.1	The coin toss winner will choose to serve or receive. The home team will select the benches before the coin toss.
DCR - 10.1.2.1	The international pursuit rule will be used provided the play does not extend into the spectator seating area.
DCR - 10.1.2.1	Teams will be given two timeouts. Timeouts will last 75 seconds, with a 15-second warning whistle. Play can resume early if both teams are ready.
DCR - 11.2	The Centerline Rule shall be observed as the stated, except that an unobtrusive pushoff completely across the centerline by the setter is to be ignored.
DCR - 15.1	Technical timeouts to only be used as requested by media.

RULE	MODIFICATION
DCR - 15.4.2 and 15.4.3	There will be a technical timeout when the first team reaches 15 points in sets one through four. In the fifth set, each team will receive two timeouts. There will be a technical timeout when the first team reaches eight points. The technical timeout will be canceled if either team calls a timeout before the automatic technical timeout.
DCR - 15.6 Division III Modification	Twelve unlimited substitutions per set will be used. If a Division III institution plays a Division I or Division II institution, the number of substitutions per set will be limited to six.
DCR - 15.6 National Collegiate Modification	Number of substitutions per set shall be limited to six.
DCR - 18.1	Intermission between sets 2 and 3 shall be 3 to 10 minutes with prior notification to visiting head coach.
DCR - 19.2	The Libero must wear a uniform which has a different dominant color from the rest of the team. The uniform must clearly contrast the rest of the team. The Libero uniform must be numbered like the rest of the team.
DCR - 19.3.1.3	The Libero will not be allowed to serve. No exception is permitted.
Challenge Review System	The Challenge Review System (CRS) procedures are found in Appendix A of this document.

Officiating Protocol Modifications

Protocol 1

The USAV DCR indicate that introductions be done through a sideline procession. To maintain more consistency with the protocol followed by the women and at the men's national tournament, the committee recommends that the players be introduced at the end line with the officials near the score table.

Protocol 2

The USAV DCR indicate that line judges (LJ) be positioned at the center of the end line during time-outs. The committee recommends that LJ's be positioned at the intersection of the attack line and sideline on R1's side of the court.

Protocol 3

The USAV DCR position the line judge (LJ) behind the server. In an effort to position the LJ to better see the foot fault violation by the server, the committee, by request of the officials, recommends that when the server is within two meters of the LJ's sideline, the LJ should move one to two meters to the side

Appendix A

Challenge Review System

Prior to the 2018 men's volleyball season a Challenge Review System (CRS) was approved for use by the Playing Rules Oversight Panel.

1. Definition

- 1.1. The challenge review system (instant replay) is a process whereby video review is used to confirm, reverse or replay specific decisions made by the officiating team.
- 1.2. The second referee may reverse a ruling only if the video review reveals by indisputable evidence that the referee's ruling was incorrect.
- 1.3. If the second referee determines that the video review is inconclusive, the original decision stands.
- 1.4. All reviews shall be limited to the challengeable action.

2. Eligibility and Participation

Any member institution or conference may use the CRS, though there is no requirement to do so.

3. Equipment, Personnel and Location

- 3.1 **Personnel** Instant replay personnel shall consist of a video review technician to operate the review equipment in an efficient and timely manner.
- 3.2 **Equipment**
 - 3.2.1 The type of equipment and number of cameras used for the CRS shall be determined by each conference or member institution.
 - 3.2.2 A monitor must be located at the scorer's table. The second referee should have direct and easy access to the monitor.
 - 3.2.3 Any camera used shall not alter the integrity of the net or interfere with the officials' performance of their duties.

4. Reviewable Decisions

The following decisions may be reviewed:

- 4.1 Ball ruled in or out by Rule 8.2 and Rule 8.3 of the USAV, DCR
- 4.2 Whether the ball contacted a player, including:
 - 4.2.1 A ball that may have been contacted by a player before landing outside the court boundary lines.
 - 4.2.2 A team that may have had four or more ball contacts before returning to the opponents' court.
- 4.3 Whether a net fault occurred.

- 4.4 Whether a service foot fault occurred.
- 4.5 Whether a backrow player was an illegal attacker as defined by Rules 13.2.2 and 13.2.3 of the USAV, DCR.

5. Procedures

5.1 Number of challenges per match.

5.1.1 Each coach begins the match with three (3) challenges. If a coach is successful in challenging the result of a play using CRS, the coach will retain the use of that challenge.

5.1.2 If a fifth set is played, each team is awarded an additional challenge at the start of that set.

5.2 Only one challenge per team is allowed each time the ball is out of play.

5.3 Only the team that lost the rally may challenge. If the call is reversed as a result of that challenge, the team that lost the review would be able to challenge.

5.4 Only the head coach must request a challenge. The head coach may request a challenge by holding up the challenge card.

5.5 A challenge must be requested before the first service after the play in which the challengeable action occurred.

5.6 A challenge must be accepted by the second referee provided it is one of the challengeable actions. If an attempt is made to challenge a non-challengeable action, the challenge shall be denied and a delay sanction may be assessed

Appendix B

Concussions

A concussion is a brain injury that may be caused by a blow to the head, face, neck or elsewhere on the body with an “impulsive” force transmitted to the head. Concussions can occur without loss of consciousness or other obvious signs. A repeat concussion that occurs before the brain recovers from the previous one (hours, days or weeks) can slow recovery or increase the likelihood of having long-term problems. In rare cases, repeat concussions can result in brain swelling, permanent brain damage, and even death.

Recognize and Refer: To help recognize a concussion, watch for the following two events among your student-athletes during both meets and practices:

1. A forceful blow to the head or body that results in rapid movement of the head.

-AND-

2. Any change in the student-athlete’s behavior, thinking, or physical functioning (see signs and symptoms).

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

Signs Observed by Coaching Staff

- Appears dazed or stunned.
- Is unsure of score or opponent.
- Moves clumsily.
- Answers questions slowly.
- Loses consciousness (even briefly).
- Shows behavior or personality changes.
- Can’t recall events before hit or fall.
- Can’t recall events after hit or fall.

Symptoms Reported by Student-Athlete

- Headache or “pressure” in head.
- Nausea or vomiting.
- Balance problems or dizziness.
- Double or blurry vision.
- Sensitivity to light.
- Sensitivity to noise.
- Feeling sluggish, hazy, foggy or groggy.
- Concentration or memory problems.
- Confusion.
- Does not “feel right.”

An athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion, either at rest or during exertion, should be **removed immediately from practice or competition** and should not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health care professional.

IF A CONCUSSION IS SUSPECTED:

1. **Remove the student-athlete from play.** Look for the signs and symptoms of concussion if your student-athlete has experienced a blow to the head. Do not allow the student-athlete to just “shake it off.” Each individual athlete will respond to concussions differently.

2. **Ensure that the student-athlete is evaluated right away by an appropriate health care professional.** Do not try to judge the severity of the injury yourself. Immediately refer the student-athlete to the appropriate athletics medical staff, such as a certified athletic trainer, team physician or health care professional experienced in concussion evaluation and management.
3. **Allow the student-athlete to return to play only with permission from a health care professional with experience in evaluating for concussion.** Allow athletics medical staff to rely on their clinical skills and protocols in evaluating the athlete to establish the appropriate time to return to play. A return-to-action progression should occur in an individualized, step-wise fashion with gradual increments in physical exertion and risk of contact. Follow your institution's physician supervised concussion management protocol.
4. **Develop a game plan.** Student-athletes should not return to play until cleared by the appropriate athletics medical staff. In fact, as concussion management continues to evolve with new science, the care is becoming more conservative and return-to-play time frames are getting longer. Coaches should have a game plan that accounts for student-athletes to be out for at least the remainder of the day.

For further details, please refer to the "NCAA Sports Medicine Handbook Guideline on Concussions" or online at www.ncaa.org and www.CDC.gov/Concussion.

Appendix C

Accommodations for Student-Athletes with Disabilities

The NCAA encourages participation by student-athletes with disabilities (physical or mental) in intercollegiate athletics and physical activities to the full extent of their interests and abilities. An NCAA member institution will have the right to seek, on behalf of any student-athlete with a disability participating on the member's team, a reasonable modification or accommodation of a playing rule, provided that the modification or accommodation would not:

1. Compromise the safety of, or increase the risk of injury to, any other student-athlete;
2. Change an essential element that would fundamentally alter the nature of the game; or
3. Provide the student-athlete an unfair advantage over the other competitors.

To request any such modification or accommodation, the member's director of athletics, or his/her designee, must submit a rule waiver request, in writing, to the secretary-rules editor. Such written request should describe:

- a. The playing rule from which relief is sought;
- b. The nature of the proposed modification or accommodation;
- c. The nature of the student-athlete's disability and basis for modification or accommodation; and
- d. The proposed duration of the requested modification or accommodation.

Additionally, each request should be accompanied by documentation evidencing the student-athlete's disability (e.g., a medical professional's letter). Upon receipt of a complete waiver request, the secretary-rules editor will consult with NCAA staff, the applicable sport/rules committee, other sport governing bodies, and/or outside experts, to conduct an individual inquiry as to whether the requested modification or accommodation can be made. In making this assessment, the NCAA may request additional information from the member institution. The secretary-rules editor will

communicate the decision in writing (which may be via email) to the requesting member institution. If the request is granted, the member institution should be prepared to provide the written decision to the officiating staff, opposing coach(es), and tournament director (if applicable) for each competition in which the student-athlete will participate. NCAA members are directed to consult Guideline 2P of the NCAA Sports Medicine Handbook for further considerations regarding participation by student-athletes with impairment.