



Challenge Review System Manual

2025

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P R E F A C E

Introduction

The Challenge Review System (CRS) is a process for using video review to confirm, reverse, or replay certain officials' decisions. CRS was used on an experimental basis in the 2015 season by schools in two major conferences. In 2016, the NCAA Women's Volleyball Rules Committee approved CRS for use in all levels of women's collegiate volleyball.

While use of this rule is optional, and each institution can decide whether to implement the process or not, the NCAA Rules Committee continues to approve and improve this rule. In some instances, the decision to use CRS (or not) is made at the conference level so that all conference matches are played consistently.

CHAPTER 1

Rule 18 – Challenge Review System

RULES – Definition and Basics

18.1.1.1 – 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.

18.1.1.2 – The second referee may reverse a ruling only if the video review reveals by indisputable evidence that the referee’s ruling was incorrect.

18.1.1.3 – If the second referee determines that the video review is inconclusive, the original decision stands.

18.1.1.4 – All reviews shall be limited to the challengeable action.

18.1.2 Eligibility and Participation – Any member institution or conference may use the CRS, but there is no requirement to do so.

RULES – Personnel, Equipment, and Location

Personnel

18.1.3.1 – Instant replay personnel shall consist of a video review technician to operate the review equipment in an efficient and timely manner.

18.1.3.1.2 – A third official (review official) may be used to decide the outcome of a challenge by viewing the video instead of the second referee. The review official sits at the scorer’s table next to the video review technician and makes the final decision to confirm or reverse the original ruling. Use of a review official is not required.

Equipment

18.1.3.2 – The type of equipment and number of cameras used for the CRS shall be determined by each conference or member institution.

18.1.3.3 – A monitor must be located at the scorer's table. The second referee should have direct and easy access to the monitor.

18.1.3.4 – Any camera used shall not alter the integrity of the net or interfere with the officials' performance of their duties.

18.1.3.5 – The challenge cards must be a minimum of 3" x 5" and may not exceed 4" x 6". The color is jasmine green (PANTONE color 15-0545). It is recommended that the cards be laminated.

Location

18.1 3.6 – During a challenge review, the players currently in the game must remain on the court. The coaches, non-playing team members, and bench personnel may approach the sideline beyond the substitution zone.

2025 Rules Interpretation: CRS Camera Location

Cameras used for the Challenge Review System may be placed on the playing surface a minimum of 2 meters (6 feet, 6 inches) away from the court and within 1 meter (3 feet, 3 inches) of the boundary defining the playing area.

For cameras on the playing surface:

- Cameras must be padded with at least 1.25-centimeters (½ inch) thick, resilient, shock-absorbing material (such as polyethylene foam).
- Any cables attached to the camera must be secured.
- Any camera and associated cables must not create a safety hazard.
- It is recommended that the location of the cameras be identified with a minimum 1.25 centimeter (½ inch) wide tape on either side of the camera to indicate the location of the camera.

RULES – Reviewable Decisions

BALL RULED IN/OUT, TOUCH, OR NET FAULT

18.1.4.1 Ball ruled in or out as defined in Rule 16.2.1 and 16.2.2.

For example:

- *Whether or not the ball landed inside or outside the end line or sideline*
- *Whether or not the ball contacted an antenna*
- *Whether or not ball was played before contacting the floor on pancakes or similar defensive plays*
- *Whether or not a ball contacted an obstruction*
- *Whether a player was legally in the playing area when playing the ball, as defined in Rules 4.1.2 and 4.1.3.*

18.1.4.2 Whether the ball contacted a player.

For example:

- *If a ball was touched before landing out of bounds*
- *If a team contacted the ball four or more times*
- *If the same player used two separate and distinct attempts to contact the ball*
- *Decisions regarding an illegal attack, illegal block, contact over the opponent's court that are dependent on whether there was contact by the player potentially at fault*
- *Decisions regarding interference above the net that that are dependent on whether the player contacted the ball or an opponent*

18.1.4.3 Whether a net fault occurred, including a player touching the antenna, as defined in Rules 15.2.1 and 15.2.2.

For example:

- *If a player contacted the net or antenna while in the action of playing the ball*
- *If a player's contact with the net was completely outside the antenna (no fault)*

NOTE: When reviewing decisions included in 18.1.4.1-18.1.4.3, the first fault observed in the playing actions beginning with the initial action or contact with the ball up to and including the next team's first hit (except per Rule 14.6.2.1), or the completion of the opponent's playing action(s) takes precedence. A review of an in/out, touch, or net fault decision can result in a final determination of "in," "out," "touch," "net fault," or "no net fault."

18.1.4.4 Whether a service foot fault occurred, as defined in Rule 13.2.2.1.1

18.1.4.5 Whether a back-row player was an illegal attacker as defined in Rule 14.5.4.2.1.

- *A back-row player who is in the front zone may not complete an attack-hit, if, at contact, the ball is entirely above the top of the net.*
- *The contact does not become illegal until the attack-hit is complete.*

18.1.4.6 Whether the libero's foot/feet or take-off point is in the front zone when the libero set the ball to a teammate as defined by Rule 12.1.2.4.

RULES – Challenge Procedures

18.1.5.1 A Team begins each match with two challenges per match.

18.1.5.1.1 If a fifth set is played, each team is awarded an additional challenge at the start of the set, not to exceed two total challenges.

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

18.1.5.3 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 another aspect of the previous play.

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

18.1.5.5 A challenge must be requested immediately after the play in which the challengeable action occurred and before the next service.

18.1.5.5.1 At the end of a set, a challenge must be requested before the first referee gives the end of set signal.

18.1.5.5.2 At the end of the match, a challenge must be requested before the first referee leaves the referee stand.

18.1.5.6 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.

18.1.5.7 If the result of a play is a replay, either team may challenge. If the decision is reversed as a result of the challenge, the team that lost the point after review can challenge an earlier fault during the same play.

18.1.5.8 If the video review results in a reversal of the original outcome, that challenge is retained by the challenging team. If the original outcome stands or is confirmed, the challenging team loses that challenge.

18.1.5.9 If the referee is informed after accepting a challenge that a camera(s) that was available prior to the challenge has a mechanical failure, the referee will inform the challenging coach of the failure, and allow the coach to decide to continue with the challenge using the available cameras, or withdraw the challenge.

18.1.5.10 If a challenge is requested after a media timeout begins, the video will be reviewed during the media timeout. If the original decision is reversed, there will not be another media timeout in that set.

18.1.5.11 If a challenge is requested after the court switch in a deciding set, teams will remain on their current side for the remainder of the set, regardless of the resulting score after the challenge.

CHAPTER 2

Rules Interpretations

Team S = Serving Team; Team R = Receiving Team

In/Out Category

Scenario 1

During a rally, there is a pancake attempt by Team R #5. Instantly after the attempted pancake, the ball ricochets off another Team R player, #8, and lands out of bounds. A line judge indicates that the pancake was not successful and signals the ball down; the first referee signals “ball in” and awards the rally to Team S. The Team R coach attempts to challenge that the pancake was successful. The second referee tells the Team R coach that the challenge can be accepted; however, if the video shows that the ball did not hit the floor on the pancake attempt, it also will likely show that the whistle for the unsuccessful pancake would be considered an inadvertent whistle, with no change to the original call.

Ruling: *The second referee’s decision and technique is correct. The challenge can be accepted, but preventing a wasted challenge on this extremely rare situation is good technique. If the coach insists on challenging, and the video replay shows that the pancake was successful, but there was no chance of a subsequent play on the ball, Team S is still awarded the point. This decision is based on the unusual situation where the ball is dead immediately after the pancake attempt, making the decision on the pancake extraneous.*

Scenario 2

Team R player #9 is near a non-playing area as she plays the ball, saving a teammate’s errant pass. A teammate then passes the ball across the net, where it lands on Team S’s court. The Team S coach challenges that Team R player #9 was not legally within the playing area when she played the ball. The referee accepts the challenge.

Ruling: *The referee’s decision is correct. Playing a ball while completely off of the playing surface results in an “out” call, and “in/out” decisions are challengeable.*

Touch Category

Scenario 3

A Team S player attacks a ball that travels near two Team R blockers and then a Team R back-row defensive player before landing out of bounds. The first referee whistles and awards the rally to Team S, and signals touch. Team R coach asks which player touched the ball and the R1 indicates the back-row player. The Team R coach challenges the touch call. The video review shows that the back-row player did NOT touch the ball, but one of the blockers did. The second referee awards the rally to Team S, indicating that the original touch call stands.

Ruling: The second referee's decision is correct. The second referee's responsibility is to confirm whether or not a Team R player touched the ball. When the video is reviewed to determine if there was a touch, the challenge is not limited to look only at a certain player or position.

Scenario 4

Team S attacks the ball into the tape and/or block and the ball returns to Team S's side of the court. When a Team S player subsequently contacts the ball, the first referee whistles and indicates four hits on Team S. Team S's coach challenges, saying Team R's block touched the attack. Video review shows there was a touch by a Team R blocker. The second referee signals replay.

Ruling: The referee's decision is correct. Since the first referee's whistle ended a rally incorrectly, a replay is directed.

Scenario 5

Team S attacks the ball into the tape and/or block and the ball returns to Team S's side of the court where it is played again by Team S. The referees allow play to continue for several volleys, ending with the ball landing on Team R's court. Team R coach challenges, saying Team R's block did NOT touch the attacked ball, and Team S should have been called for four hits. The video review shows there was not a touch by the Team R blockers. The second referee awards a point to Team R.

Ruling: The second referee's decision was correct. The rally should have ended after Team S's fourth contact.

Scenario 6

Multiple Team R players (including player #2) are scrambling to save a ball coming from Team S. The ball rebounds off someone's arm that is in the area of the save, and then player #2 sends the ball across the net, where it lands on Team S's court. The Team S coach wants to challenge that Team R player #2 hit the ball twice in succession. The second referee denies the challenge.

Ruling: The second referee's decision is incorrect. A coach may challenge that Team R player #2 made two separate and distinct attempts to play the ball. If the review shows that both contacts were by player #2, the resulting fault signal is Signal #12 "ball contacted more than once by a player" (two hits).

Scenario 7

The Team R setter attempts to set the ball to the outside hitter. As the ball leaves her hands it is spinning, and the ball crosses the net. The Team S coach wants to challenge that the Team R's setter made a double contact on the ball that was set over the net. The referee accepts the challenge.

Ruling: The second referee is incorrect. The Team R setter made one attempt to play the ball, not two separate attempts. Ball handling judgment calls may not be challenged.

Scenario 8

The Team R front-row setter jumps to set a ball. Instead of setting she attempts to tip the ball to the opponent's side. A Team S blocker is jumping with the Team R setter, and the tipped ball contacts the tape and perhaps the Team S blocker. The ball immediately rebounds to Team R's side where the Team R setter sets it to a teammate who hits it on the Team S court. The Team S coach wants to challenge that the Team S blocker never touched the ball, resulting in a double contact (two attempts) by the Team R setter. The second referee accepts the challenge.

Ruling: The second referee is correct. The second referee can review if the blocker did or did not touch the ball. Even though the call will be a double contact, it would be two clear and distinct attempts to play the ball.

Scenario 9

Player #5 and #6 from Team S both attempt to play a free ball, and the first referee determines that the players contacted the ball simultaneously. Team S uses two more contacts and sends the ball to the Team R court. The Team R coach challenges that #5 and #6 did not touch the ball simultaneously and that their contacts were consecutive. The second referee denies the challenge since it involves judgment.

Ruling: *The referee's decision is incorrect. The coach is challenging 4 hits (player touching the ball), and that is a challengeable action.*

Scenario 10

The Team S back-row setter is near the net, attempting to save a pass from a teammate that is headed for the opponent's court. As the ball nears the plane of the net, a Team R blocker appears to contact the ball. The first referee whistles and signals illegal contact over the opponent's court on Team R. The Team R coach challenges, stating that the ball was in the plane of the net when the Team R blockers contacted it. The second referee accepts the challenge.

Ruling: *The second referee's decision is incorrect. The only challengeable factor of this play is regarding whether or not a particular player touched the ball. The location/height of the ball or a player is not challengeable.*

Scenario 11

Team R's back-row setter #8 is jumping to save a teammate's overpass; the ball is entirely above the top of the net and in the plane of the net. The Team S middle blocker attacks the ball, and it lands out of bounds on Team R's side. The first referee whistles and signals an illegal (back-row) block on Team R back-row setter #8. The Team R coach challenges saying that #8 did not touch the ball before it landed out of bounds. The referee accepts the challenge.

Ruling: *The referees' decision is correct. The coach can challenge an illegal (back-row) block decision that is based on whether or not a player contacted the ball. Since an illegal block was called, it is clear that the referee(s) determined that the back-row player was (a) near the net, and (b) reaching higher than the top of the net at contact. Since the only factor being challenged is whether Team R's setter touched the ball before it went out, the challenge should be accepted.*

Scenario 12

Team S's back-row setter #10 is near the net, reaching higher than the net, and attempting to save a pass from a teammate that is headed for the opponent's court. A Team R front-row player legally attacks the ball, which immediately goes out of bounds on Team S's side. The officials do not see Team S #10 touch the ball as it travels out of bounds, and they call "out" on Team R, resulting in a point for Team S. The Team R coach challenges that #10 touched the ball as it went out of bounds after the attack, and the second referee accepts the challenge.

Ruling: The second referee's decision is correct. This situation is part of the "touch" category. If the video review shows that S #10 touched the ball, the result of the challenge would be an illegal block on the back-row setter.

Scenario 13

The Team S back-row setter is near the net, attempting to save a pass from a teammate that is heading for the opponent's court. The Team S setter possibly contacted the ball before it was legally contacted by a Team R blocker. The referee whistles and signals an illegal attack on Team S. The Team S coach wants to challenge that the back-row setter did not touch the ball. The second referee allows the challenge.

Ruling: The second referee's decision is correct. Since the fault called was an illegal attack, the first referee has already determined that the ball was completely above the height of the net when the Team S back-row setter potentially contacted the ball. The only challengeable aspect of this play is whether or not Team S's back-row setter touched the ball. The second referee cannot review the height or location of the ball.

Scenario 14

The Team S back-row setter is near the net, attempting to save a pass from a teammate that is headed for the opponent's court. The Team S setter contacts the ball and the ball enters the plane of the net where it is blocked by an opponent; however, the first referee immediately signals that the ball was **not** entirely higher than the top of the net at the time of the setter's contact. Play is allowed to continue, and Team S wins the point. The Team R coach wants to challenge that the Team S setter's play was an illegal (back-row) attack, stating the ball **was** entirely higher than the top of the net at contact. The second referee does not accept the challenge.

Ruling: The second referee's decision is correct. Since the coach is trying to challenge the height of the ball, rather than whether or not a player contacted the ball, no challenge is permitted.

Scenario 15

The Team S back-row setter is near the net, attempting to save a pass from a teammate that is headed for the opponent's court. As the ball nears the plane of the net, a Team R blocker appears to contact the ball. The first referee whistles and signals illegal contact over the opponent's court on Team R. The Team R coach challenges, stating that the Team R blocker did not touch the ball. The second referee accepts the challenge.

Ruling: The second referee's decision is correct. Since the referees called illegally reaching over the net, they have determined that the ball was not in the plane of the net; therefore, the only factor in question is whether or not the blocker touched the ball.

Scenario 16

The Team S back-row setter is near the net, attempting to save a pass from a teammate that is headed for the opponent's court. The Team S setter contacts the ball, and it enters the plane of the net. A Team S attacker and a Team R blocker both appear to contact the ball. The first referee whistles and signals a back-row attack on the Team S setter. The Team S coach challenges, stating that the Team S attacker contacted the ball before the Team R blocker. The second referee accepts the challenge.

Ruling: The second referee's decision is correct. Since the referees called a back-row attack, they have determined that there was either simultaneous contact by the Team S attacker and Team R blocker, or the Team R blocker contacted the ball first.

Scenario 17

As the Team S setter sets the ball to a teammate, a Team R blocker reaches beyond the net and touches the Team S setter's hand. The first referee whistles interference (i.e., reaching over) by the Team R blocker. The Team R coach requests to challenge that the Team R blocker touched the setter's hand after the Team S setter released it and thus there was no interference. The second referee accepts the challenge.

Ruling: The second referee is correct. Interference above the net is a challengeable decision (Rule 18.1.4.2.5). The second referee may review the video to determine whether the Team R blocker touched the setter's hand after the ball was played by the setter. Video may not be used to determine the location or position the ball is in relation to the net.

Scenario 18

The Team R setter clearly double hits the team's second contact. The first referee determines a Team S blocker legally touched the ball prior to any Team R player, whistles a double hit fault, and awards a point to Team S. The Team R coach requests to challenge that a Team R player touched the ball prior to (or simultaneously with) the Team S blocker.

Ruling: The second referee accepts the challenge ("touch" category) and reviews the video to determine who touched the ball next after the double hit. If the video shows that a Team R player touched the ball prior to (or simultaneously with) the Team S blocker, the original decision is reversed, there was no double hit fault, and the rally is replayed.

Scenario 19

The Team S setter clearly double hits the team's second contact, and the first referee determines a Team S attacker touched the ball next. The first referee allows play to continue, and Team S wins the rally. The Team R coach requests to challenge that a Team R blocker touched the ball prior to the Team S attacker.

Ruling: The second referee accepts the challenge ("touch" category) and reviews the video to determine who touched the ball next after the double hit. The first referee must agree a double hit would have been called if he/she believed a Team R player contacted the ball first. If the second referee finds that a Team R player touched the ball first, the original decision is reversed, Team S committed a double hit fault, and Team R wins the rally.

Net Fault Category

Scenario 20

After a very long rally, Team R hits the ball in the net and Team S is awarded the rally. The Team R coach challenges that Team S was in the net. The second referee accepts the challenge and starts looking for a net fault from the start of the rally.

Ruling: The referee's review process is incorrect. The second referee must come to a mutual agreement with the coach regarding the approximate point in the rally when the coach believes the net fault occurred, and that is the portion of the video that is reviewed.

Scenario 21

During a play at the net, a Team S player is whistled for a net fault. The Team S coach challenges that the player did not contact the net. Video review shows that no Team S player contacted the net, but does show a net fault by a Team R player during the same action. The second referee whistles, signals a net fault on Team R and shows the appropriate player number. The first referee awards the rally to Team S.

Ruling: The second referee's decision is correct providing the Team R net contact occurred during the action that resulted in the challenge.

Scenario 22

During a play at the net, Team S player #5 (outside hitter) is whistled for a net fault. The Team S coach challenges, saying #5 was not in the net. Video review shows that #5 was NOT in the net, but her teammate #8 (middle blocker) did contact the net during the same action. The second referee repeats the point signal to Team R, as the original net fault decision stands.

Ruling: The referee's decision is correct. The challenge is whether or not a Team S player committed a net fault. When challenging or reviewing a net fault decision, a coach or referee does not have to specify the player at fault.

Scenario 23

At the end of the rally the Team R coach asks to challenge a net fault on Team S. The second referee agrees there was a net contact but says the Team S player was not in the act of playing the ball. The second referee denies the challenge since the coach is challenging judgment.

Ruling: The second referee's decision is incorrect. The referee should accept the challenge and confirm, through video review, whether the player was or was not playing the ball when the net contact occurred.

Scenario 24

The referees whistle a net fault on Team R. The Team R coach challenges the net call, saying no Team R player was in the net. Video review shows that neither team contacted the net.

Ruling: Since the referee's whistle ended a rally incorrectly, a replay is directed.

Scenario 25

The ball is passed into the net by Team R. The Team S's middle blocker moves toward the ball as it hits the net, purposely redirecting the ball with her forearms/hands. The second referee whistles and indicates a net fault on the Team S's middle blocker. The Team S's coach wants to challenge the net fault decision. The second referee states it was an intentional act and is not challengeable.

Ruling: The second referee is incorrect. Whether the act was intentional or not, the call was net fault and that is a challengeable action.

Scenario 26

Team S attacks a ball that lands near Team R's sideline. The first referee and line judge signal touch by Team R (inferring that the ball landed out of bounds). The Team R coach challenges, stating that there was no touch. The video review shows there was NO touch by Team R, but the ball landed in. The second referee indicates "in" and awards Team S the point.

Ruling: The referee's decision is correct. The coach challenged whether a Team R player touched the ball, not whether the ball was in or out. However, a challenge about an "in/out," "touch," or "net fault" decision that terminates the play can result in a ruling on any of those potential faults. The second referee correctly signals "in" and awards Team S the point.

Scenario 27

A Team S attacker tips the ball. A Team R player attempts to make a pancake save. The ball is called down by the referees. The Team R coach challenges the call, saying that the pancake was successful. The video review shows the pancake was successful and the ball was "up," but also clearly shows a Team R player committed a net fault on the play. The second referee signals a net fault and awards the ball to Team S.

Ruling: The referee's decision is correct. The coach challenged whether or not the ball contacted the floor (not a net fault). However, a challenge about an "in/out," "touch," or "net fault" decision that terminates the play can result in a ruling on any of those potential faults. The second referee correctly signals a net fault on Team R, identifies the player at fault by number, and awards Team S the point.

Scenario 28

The Team S back-row setter is near the net, attempting to save a pass from a teammate that is headed for the opponent's court. As the ball nears the plane of the net, a Team R blocker appears to contact the ball. The first referee whistles and signals illegal contact over the opponent's court on Team R. The Team R coach challenges, stating that the Team R blocker did not touch the ball. The second referee accepts the challenge, and the review shows that the Team R blocker did not touch the ball, but she did contact the net during the play. The second referee calls a replay since the blocker did not touch the ball.

Ruling: *The second referee accepted the challenge correctly, but the final decision is incorrect. When a challenge involves a touch decision, the result of the review can be "in/out," "touch," or "net/no net." The second referee should whistle and signal the net fault on Team R, identify the player at fault by number, and award Team S the point.*

Scenario 29

The Team S outside hitter hits a ball that lands out of bounds. The Team S coach challenges that the ball hit a Team R blocker's hand before landing out. After the video review, the second referee determines that the Team R blockers **did** touch the ball and reverses the call, awarding the rally to Team S. The Team R coach questions the second referee, stating that the Team S attacker touched the antenna just before the ball touched the blocker's hands. The second referee tells the Team R coach that she must use a challenge to have the video reviewed again to check for the potential net fault by Team S on the play.

Ruling: *The referee's decision is incorrect. Because the net fault was part of the same playing action that was challenged by Team S, the second referee should have looked for all possible outcomes (in/out, touch, net fault) when reviewing the video. Team R should not be required to use a challenge to review a potential fault that may have occurred during the challenged play.*

Scenario 30

The Team S outside hitter attacks a ball that lands near the end line. The ball is called “out,” and Team R receives the point. The Team S coach challenges that the ball was “in.” The second referee reviews the video and determines that the ball was “in” and awards the rally to Team S. The Team R coach then challenges that a Team S blocker committed a net fault earlier in the rally, and the second referee accepts the challenge.

Ruling: *The referee’s decision is correct. Because the net fault being challenged did not occur during the same playing action that was challenged by Team S, the second referee cannot rule on a net fault that may have occurred earlier in the rally. The Team R coach must challenge, and the second referee may then review the video related to the fault being challenged.*

Scenario 31

A Team S back-row player attacks a ball that is completely higher than the top of the net, and the ball lands near the end line. The ball is called “out,” and Team R receives the point. The Team S coach challenges that the ball was “in.” The second referee reviews the video and determines that the ball was “in” and awards the rally to Team S. The Team R coach then wants the second referee to look and see if the Team S back-row attacker was on the attack line, and the second referee states that Team R must use a challenge to have the potential attack line fault reviewed.

Ruling: *The referee’s decision is correct. Even though the potential attack line fault occurred during the same play that was challenged by Team S, the second referee cannot look for an attack line fault in conjunction for an in/out/touch/net fault challenge. Team R must use a challenge if they want the second referee to look for an attack line fault.*

Bundle (In/Out; Touch; Net Fault)

Scenario 32

Team S attacks a ball, and the ball lands near Team R's sideline. The line judge signals "out." The Team S coach challenges the call, saying the ball landed "in." The video review shows the ball was "out," but it also clearly shows that a Team R player touched the ball before it went out. The second referee signals "touch" and awards Team S the point.

Ruling: *The referee's decision is correct. The coach challenged whether the ball landed in or out, not player touching the ball. However, a challenge about an "in/out," "touch," or "net fault" decision that terminates the play can result in a ruling on any of those potential faults. The second referee correctly signals "touch" and awards Team S the point.*

Scenario 33

Team R#3 is very near the net and sets the ball to R#5 who attacks the ball, which lands near the end line of Team S. The first referee signals the ball in and awards a point and serve to Team R. Team S wants to challenge that the ball landed out. During the review, the second referee reviews the in/out decision and also checks whether there was a net fault as part of the bundle.

The second referee determines that R#5 did not contact the net during the attack hit, but notices that R#3 touched the net as the ball was set to R#5 before the ball was attacked. The second referee confirms the initial decision that the ball was in and does not consider the net contact by R#3 in the ruling. Is second referee's decision correct?

Ruling: *The second referee is correct. The bundle includes the last playing action before the ball crosses the net and the playing actions up to and including the first contact on the other side of the net. In this case, the last playing action before the ball crossed the net was R#5's attack hit. The Team S challenge cannot consider R#3's net contact because that net contact occurred prior to the portion of the play under review and is therefore not part of the bundle.*

Service Foot Fault Category

Scenario 34

As the Team S server contacts the ball, the first referee whistles and signals a foot fault. The Team S captain questions the call, and the first referee states that at the time of service contact, the server's foot was outside the short line that limits the service area. The Team S coach challenges the foot fault decision.

Ruling: *The challenge is accepted, and the video is reviewed to determine if the server was in a legal position at contact of service. The service foot fault category includes both end line foot faults and contact with the floor outside the service zone.*

Illegal Attack Category

Scenario 35

The Team S middle back player jumps and attacks a ball that is entirely higher than the top of the net; the attacker's take-off point is very near the attack line. The referees allow play to continue, and eventually the ball lands on Team R's court. The Team R coach wants to challenge the play because the Team S back-row attacker's take-off point was on the attack line.

Ruling: *The challenge should be accepted and video reviewed to determine if the Team S back-row attacker's take-off point was legal.*

Scenario 36

The Team S back-row defensive player jumps and attacks a ball that may or may not be entirely higher than the top of the net; the attacker's take-off point is clearly in front of the attack line. The referees allow play to continue, and eventually the ball lands on Team R's court. The Team R coach wants to challenge the play, stating that the Team S back-row attacker illegally attacked a ball that was entirely higher than the top of the net.

Ruling: *The challenge should not be accepted. The position of the ball when attacked by a back-row attacker is not a challengeable decision. Good referee mechanics can help this situation. If the height of the ball is questionable, and the first referee determines that the ball is not entirely higher than the top of the net, using the "below the top of the net" signal to indicate that decision is good communication.*

Scenario 37

The Team S libero is in a position very near the attack line as she sets a ball to a teammate. Team S outside hitter #7 attacks the libero's set while the ball is entirely higher than the top of the net. The first referee whistles and signals an illegal attack due to the libero set. The Team S coach believes the libero's feet were behind the attack line at the time of the set and wants to challenge the decision.

Ruling: *The challenge should be accepted. The location of the libero's feet or take-off point is one of the challengeable decisions.*

Scenario 38

The Team R coach wants to challenge that the Team S libero was in the front zone while setting a front-row attacker. The second referee refuses to accept the challenge because the first referee indicated the ball was below the height of the net when contacted by the attacker.

Ruling: *The second referee is correct. A team cannot challenge the height or location of the ball.*

Scenario 39

During a rally, the Team S libero steps into the front zone and uses a fist to deflect a ball coming from the opponent. Team S outside hitter #12 attacks the ball while it is entirely higher than the top of the net. The ball lands on Team R's court, and the referee signals point to Team S. The Team R coach wants to challenge that the attack was illegal since the libero was in the front zone when she contacted the ball.

Ruling: *The referees should quickly communicate to ensure that both agree that the libero did not use an overhand finger pass. With that agreement, the challenge should not be accepted, as the only challengeable factor is the libero's position.*

Sequence of Faults

When reviewing decisions included in 18.1.4.1-18.1.4.3, the first fault observed during the playing action(s) beginning with the initial action or contact with the ball up to and including the next team's first hit (except per Rule 14.6.2.1), or playing action(s) takes precedence. If the sequence of faults cannot be determined using the video, the original decision stands.

Scenario 40

The Team S setter clearly double hits the team's second contact. The ball is next legally blocked by Team R. The first referee whistles and signals a double hit fault on Team S. The first referee awards a point and service to Team R. Team S coach wants to challenge that a net fault occurred before the double hit.

Ruling: *The second referee accepts the challenge ("net fault" category). When a double hit on a team's second contact has been whistled by the first referee, the team at fault may challenge that the opponent committed a challengeable fault before the double hit was called. If video review determines a different fault occurred before a teammate or opponent contacted the ball, that fault takes precedence over the double hit.*

Note: *The height or location of the ball is not challengeable. The second referee can only review the video to determine whether an opponent committed a fault (i.e., touched the net) before the opposing blocker contacted the ball. Video cannot be used to determine if the fault occurred before the ball completely crossed the net.*

Scenario 41

The Team S setter clearly double hits the team's second contact, which crosses the net untouched by any Team S teammate or the opponent. As the first referee whistles and signals a double hit fault on Team S, the second referee whistles and signals a net fault on Team R. The first referee awards a point and service to Team R. Team S coach wants to challenge that the net fault occurred before the double hit crossed the plane of the net.

Ruling: *This play is not challengeable. Video cannot be used to determine the timing of the ball crossing the net to determine whether the double hit occurred first or the net fault. The referees should confer and come to an agreement regarding which fault occurred first.*

Scenario 42

The Team S setter clearly double hits the team's second contact, which crosses the net untouched by any other Team S teammate or an opponent. The first referee does not whistle a double hit fault on Team S. A Team R blocker touches the net while attempting to block the ball. The second referee whistles a net fault by Team R. Team R coach wants to challenge that a double hit occurred before the net fault.

Ruling: Ball handling decisions are not challengeable, Rule 18.1.4. Since the first referee did not whistle a double hit fault, video cannot be used to determine the timing of the net fault, but can be used only to determine whether the Team R blocker touched the net.

Scenario 43

Team S outside hitter #9 attacks a ball onto Team R's court. S#9 lands with her foot completely across the center line, which presents a concern for safety. The second referee whistles and signals a center line fault. The Team S coach wants to challenge that a Team R player contacted the net before the center line fault. The second referee accepts the challenge.

Ruling: The second referee is correct. A net fault is a challengeable decision. A center line fault is not challengeable, but an earlier fault in a challengeable category may be challenged.

Scenario 44

Team S outside hitter #9 attacks a ball onto Team R's court. S#9 lands with her foot completely across the center line, which presents a concern for safety. The second referee whistles and signals a center line fault. The Team S coach challenges that the ball landed in the court before the center line fault. The second referee accepts the challenge.

Ruling: The second referee is correct. A ball landing in/out is a challengeable decision. A center line fault is not challengeable, but an earlier fault in a challengeable category may be challenged.

Scenario 45

Team R#3 catches and throws the ball. The first referee whistles an illegal hit and awards a point and the serve to Team S. The Team R coach wants to challenge that a Team S player touched the net prior to the illegal hit by R#3. The second referee accepts the challenge.

Ruling: The second referee is correct. A net fault is a challengeable decision, Rule 18.1.4. Ball handling faults are not challengeable, but an earlier fault in a challengeable category may be challenged.

CRS Procedures

Scenario 46

The Team R head coach has been disqualified during the set. The Team R assistant coach (designated on the lineup sheet for set one) wants to challenge a touch call. The second referee denies this request since only the head coach may challenge.

Ruling: *The second referee is incorrect. If the head coach has been disqualified or has left the team area, a designated assistant coach may challenge.*

Scenario 47

Team R head coach has been disqualified during the set. There are no other coaches designated on the lineup sheet for set one. The second referee allows the playing captain to request a challenge.

Ruling: *The second referee is correct. If no coach is available, the playing captain may assume all duties and responsibilities of a coach. In this situation, the playing captain does not have to display the challenge card. They must inform the second referee that they want to challenge.*

Scenario 48

Team R head coach challenges an in/out decision near their team's endline. After accepting the challenge and proceeding to the CRS monitor, the technician informs the second referee that all of the in-house stationary cameras are down and the only cameras available for the review are the 5 television feeds. The second referee informs the coach of the malfunction and asks if they would like to continue with the review or withdraw the challenge. The coach asks to see what the television feeds look like on the monitor in order to decide whether or not to proceed. The second referee allows the coach to view the monitor showing the remaining feeds.

Ruling: *The second referee's decision is incorrect. The coach has the opportunity to review the camera angles before the match begins. Coaches are not allowed to view the monitor during a challenged play. The second referee should deny the coach's request to view the remaining angles and ask the coach to decide whether to continue with the review or withdraw the challenge.*

Scenario 49

While the second referee is reviewing a challenge by Team R, the Team S trainer brings water to the sideline for the players on the court. The first referee whistles and signals the trainer back to the bench.

Ruling: *The first referee is incorrect. The trainer may bring water or towels while the challenge is being reviewed. However, Team S may be at risk of a delay sanction if resumption of the match is delayed by a clean-up of water or liquids on the court.*

Scenario 50

While the challenge is being reviewed by the second referee, the spirit squad goes on the home team's court to cheer. The first referee directs event management to have the spirit squad clear the court.

Ruling: *The first referee's decision is correct. The spirit squad may stand up and cheer, but they may not be on the court.*

Scenario 51

During a broadcast match, the 15th point is scored by Team S on an attack hit close to the line. The timer sounds the horn for the media timeout. During the media timeout the Team R coach challenges that the ball was out. The second referee denies the challenge, stating that the challenge had to be requested before the media timeout was taken.

Ruling: *The second referee's decision is incorrect. A coach can challenge any time before the referee extends their arm to authorize the next service. Once the timeout is over the second referee should whistle and indicate accepted challenge. The teams will remain in their free zone until the end of the review protocol is completed. The second referee will then whistle the teams onto the court.*

Scenario 52

During a challenge review all the substitutes in the warm-up area join the coaches along the sideline to talk to the players on the court. The second referee tells the substitutes to return to the warm-up area.

Ruling: *The second referee's decision is incorrect. Substitutes should be allowed to participate in team discussion along the sideline during the challenge. Teams must be ready to immediately resume play as soon as the challenge review is completed.*

Scenario 53

While the challenge is being reviewed by the second referee, the Team R players go to the bench to get a drink of water. The first referee whistles and directs the Team R players back to the court.

Ruling: *The first referee's decision is correct. The players must remain on the court while the video is being reviewed.*

Scenario 54

The second referee instructs the scorers not to record the point that was just scored, since a challenge is likely. The scorers delay writing down the results of the previous play until the opportunity to challenge has passed.

Ruling: *The second referee's decision is incorrect. The result of the previous play must be recorded when the referees signal. If there is a challenge and the play is reversed the scorers should use the "mind change" notations to correct the score sheet.*

Scenario 55

During a rally the second referee whistles Team R's middle blocker for a net fault. The Team R coach challenges that the player did not touch the net. The second referee reviews the video, determines that there was no net fault and signals replay. The Team S coach wants to challenge that a pancake attempt by Team R earlier in the rally was not successful. The second referee allows the challenge.

Ruling: *The second referee's decision is correct. There was a completed rally prior to Team R's challenge. Since the call was reversed as a result of that challenge, the team that lost the point on review would be able to challenge a different issue earlier in the same rally.*

Scenario 56

A Team R player attacks the ball. The ball lands near the end line in front of line judge 1. Line judge 1 signals "in". The first referee agrees and signals "in", awarding the rally to Team R. At the same time, line judge 2 signals a touch, which the first referee agrees with as well and subtly acknowledges. The Team S coach wants to challenge that the ball was out.

Ruling: *Before the challenge is accepted, the second referee should tell the Team S coach that the in/out decision can be challenged, but should also point out that line judge 2 is signaling a touch. If the video review shows either that the ball was "in" or a touch by Team S, the outcome would not change.*

Scenario 57

A match reaches the fifth set. Team R has used all available challenges, and Team S has two challenges remaining. The second referee informs the Team R coach that they will have an additional challenge in the fifth set. The second referee informs the Team S coach that they will have two challenges for the fifth set. The Team S coach insists that they should receive an extra challenge during the fifth set as well.

Ruling: The second referee is correct. In a match that goes to a fifth set where CRS is used, both teams get an additional challenge not to exceed the maximum of two.

Scenario 58

During a rally, a ball rolls on the court. The first referee blows the whistle and signals replay. The Team R coach wants to challenge a net fault that he feels was missed earlier in the rally. The second referee accepts the challenge.

Ruling: The second referee's decision is correct. When a replay is indicated, either coach may challenge a fault that occurred earlier in the rally.

Scenario 59

The CRS system is not working at the start of the match. In set 1 with a score of 8-9, Team S was unable to challenge a decision as the CRS system was still not functioning. Play resumes and after several additional points have been scored, the CRS system becomes available. When the score in set 1 reaches 15-14, Team R requests to challenge a decision. The second referee does not accept the challenge, nor any other challenges for the rest of the match since the CRS system was not available at the start of the match.

Ruling: The second referee's decision is incorrect. When CRS equipment is either (1) not functioning at the start of the match and then becomes available, or (2) functioning at the start of the match and then fails, the correct procedure is to use the CRS equipment whenever it is available. The status of the CRS equipment should be communicated to both teams' head coaches by the second referee at an appropriate time without disrupting match flow.

Scenario 60

The ball is attacked and lands near the Team S end line. The line judge on that end line (LJ1) calls the ball in and the first referee awards a point to Team R. Team S challenges that the ball was out. When reviewing the video, the second referee discovers the camera focused on that end line that was available at the start of the match has malfunctioned and there is no video available to review the call. Other camera angles are available and functional. The second referee informs the Team S coach that no video is available from the end line camera and asks the coach if the review should continue with the remaining available cameras. Are the second referee's actions correct?

Ruling: *The second referee's actions are correct. When a camera that was available when the match started is not working (or no video is available from a camera) after a challenge has been accepted, the second referee should inform the coach about the malfunction and ask if the review should continue. If the coach decides to withdraw the challenge, the review is cancelled and the team retains that challenge.*

Scenario 61

Team S attacks the ball across the net. The ball lands, and the first referee calls the ball out and awards a point to Team R. Team S challenges that the Team R libero touched the ball before it landed out of bounds. The camera angles available to the second referee from the challenge review system (CRS) do not provide evidence that the Team R libero touched the ball.

During the review, the first referee informs the second referee that there is video available from the match broadcast on the videoboard that confirms the libero touched the ball before it landed out of bounds. The second referee reviews the match broadcast video on a separate monitor at the score table and confirms the libero touched the ball. The second referee reverses the original decision, and the first referee awards the point to Team S. Are the referees' actions correct?

Ruling: *The referees' actions are correct. In addition to the CRS system, referees may use broadcast video feed during the review process from the videoboard or another monitor already available at the score table (i.e. time out coordinator's monitor). Recording devices (i.e. tablets, camera phones) that are not part of the broadcast or CRS system may not be used for review.*

Scenario 62

When the score is 15-12 (in favor of Team S), Team S attacks a ball that lands near the sideline, and the ball is called “out”; Team R receives the point making the score 15-13. Team S coach challenges that the ball was “in.” The second referee reviews the video and determines the ball was “in”; the score should be 16-12. The second referee inadvertently awards the point to Team R, and the score remains 15-13. When the score is 17-15, the second referee discovers the error while Team R is serving.

Ruling: One point is added to Team S, and one point is removed from Team R. The score is changed to 18-14, and Team R continues to serve.

Participant Conduct

Scenario 63

At the end of a rally, the Team R coach is very upset and vocal about a potential missed net fault. The coach holds the challenge card and tells the second referee that he wants to challenge the missed net fault. The second referee accepts the challenge. As the second referee begins the video process, the Team R coach continues to display unsporting conduct. The second referee whistles and asks the first referee for a yellow card.

Ruling: The second referee correctly requests an individual sanction on the Team R coach. The sanction should be assessed at the time, even if the challenge review has not been completed, including recording the sanction on the scoresheet (See rule 6.4.4.1 & 6.4.4.2).

The second referee requests the card and informs the coach that they have been assessed a yellow card. The first referee displays the card and informs the captains of the sanction. After completing the sanction procedure, the second referee completes the challenge review process.

Scenario 64

The score of the second set is 24 – 22 in favor of Team S. At the end of a rally the Team R coach, who received a yellow card earlier in the set, is very upset and vocal about a potentially missed net fault. The coach holds the challenge card and tells the second referee that he wants to challenge the missed net fault. The second referee accepts the challenge. As the second referee begins the review process, the Team R coach continues to display unsporting conduct. The second referee whistles and asks the first referee for a red card.

Ruling: The second referee correctly requests an individual sanction (red card) on the Team R coach. The sanction should be assessed at the time, even if the challenge review has not been completed, including recording the sanction on the scoresheet (See rule 6.4.4.1 & 6.4.4.2).

The second referee whistles to request the red card and informs the coach that they have been assessed a red card. The first referee displays a red card and informs the captain of the sanction. The second referee confirms with the scorer that the sanction is recorded; since the score was 24-22 at the time of the challenge, the red card results in the 25th point to Team S. The second referee turns to the first referee and signals end of set.

Scenario 65

The score in the fifth set is 12-12. At the end of the rally, the Team R coach, who received a yellow card earlier in the set, is very upset about a potential missed net fault. The coach holds the challenge card and tells the second referee that he wants to challenge the missed net fault. The second referee accepts the challenge. As the second referee begins the review process, the Team R coach continues to display unsporting conduct. The second referee whistles and asks the first referee for a red card.

Ruling: The second referee correctly requests an individual sanction (red card) on the Team R coach, and the sanction is assessed immediately, including recording the sanction on the scoresheet (see rule 6.4.4.1 & 6.4.4.2).

The second referee whistles to request the red card and informs the coach that they have been assessed a red card. The first referee displays a red card and informs the captain of the sanction. The second referee confirms with the scorer that the sanction is recorded, awarding the 14th point to Team S.

The second referee does not complete the review. The sanction resulted in a point for the opponent prior to the review outcome; therefore, the review process is not completed and the original decision stands and Team R retains that challenge. If a sanction is assessed after the review is completed, the result of the review process is recorded, followed by the sanction (see rule 6.4.4.2).

CHAPTER 3

Officials' Mechanics

Accepting a Challenge

- The coach requests a challenge by holding up the challenge card.
- The second referee confirms what decision is being challenged and determines whether it is one of the challengeable decisions.
- If the challenge is accepted, the second referee:
 - Signals the accepted challenge
 - Signals the challengeable fault category
 - Displays the numeric signal representing the challenge category (expedited communication)

Sequence of a Challenge/Review

- If the challenge is accepted, the second referee whistles (two short blasts) and extends the arm and fist on the challenging team's side (*Figure 1*).
- After signaling the accepted challenge, the second referee uses the same arm to give the challengeable category signal indicating what is being challenged. The challengeable category signal is not necessarily the specific fault being challenged.
 - Touch category – “touch” signal (*Figure 2*)
 - Includes a challenge for a ball touched before it landed out of bounds; a touch that may or may not have resulted in 2 or 4 hits; a touch related to a decision on an illegal attack, illegal block, illegally contacting the ball over the opponents' court, or interference above the net.

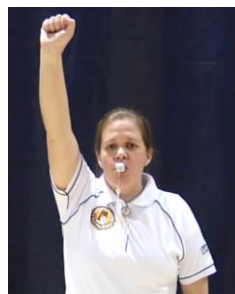


Figure 1



Figure 2

- In/out – “in” signal (*Figure 3*)
 - Includes a challenge for a ball ruled in or out; a ball that may or may have contacted an antenna or traveled outside the antenna; a player off the playing surface when playing a ball.



Figure 3

- Net fault – “net fault” signal (*Figure 4*)



Figure 4

- Attack line fault – “illegal attack” signal (*Figure 5*); for a libero fault, the second referee also signals toward the middle of the court with an open hand as if indicating the libero
 - Includes a challenge for the take-off point of a back-row player or whether the libero’s foot/feet or take-off point is in the front zone when setting the ball to a teammate.

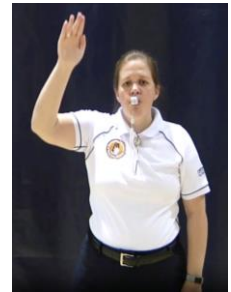


Figure 5

- Service line fault – point to the service line (*Figure 6*)



Figure 6

Expedited Communication

The challenge categories are assigned numbers representing the challengeable fault category to facilitate communication with the table:

- 1 = Touch
- 2 = In/out
- 3 = Net fault
- 4 = Attack line fault (including a libero fault)
- 5 = Service line fault

While communicating with the scorers, the category of the challenge is signaled to the rest of the table crew (announcer, video tech, observer, etc.) using the appropriate number of fingers.

Reviewing the Challenged Play

- The second referee goes to the scorer's table to review the available video.
 - Coaches are not allowed to view the monitor.
 - Coaches may talk to their team in front of their benches in the free zone. All team members may go to the sideline but may not enter the court.
 - Each conference/institution may set their own rules regarding showing the challenged play on the video board during or after the review process.
- After reviewing the available video and making a decision, the second referee determines and communicates the outcome to scorers, announcer, and timeout coordinator.

Signaling the Result of the Challenge

The second referee whistles (once) and signals the decision regarding the fault that was originally called.

- If the original outcome is confirmed, only the original point is re-signaled (*Figure 7*).
 - The first referee mimics the point signal.



Figure 7

- If the video review shows that the fault that was called was incorrect, but the fault seen on the video does not change the outcome of the rally, the second referee signals the “new” fault (*Figures 9-18*) and then re-signals the original point (*Figure 7*).
 - The first referee mimics the point signal.
 - If a net fault is the resulting fault signal, both referees include the player’s number in their respective signal sequence.
- If the original fault decision and outcome are to be reversed, the second referee signals the “new” fault discovered through the review (*Figures 9-18*); if reversing the original outcome results in a replay, the second referee should signal a replay (*Figure 8*).
 - The first referee awards the point to the opposing team (*Figure 7*), which the second referee will mimic, or repeats the replay signal (*Figure 8*).
 - If a net fault is the resulting fault signal, both referees include the player’s number in their respective signal sequence.



Figure 8

The figures below show possible outcomes of a challenge review based on the category of the challenge.

In/Out Category

- Video review shows the ball landed “IN” or that a player’s “pancake” attempt was unsuccessful.



Figure 9

- Video review shows the ball landed “OUT,” the ball contacted an antenna, the ball contacted an obstruction, or a player was not in the playing area when contacting the ball.



Figure 10

Touch Category

- Video review shows the ball was touched by an opponent before landing out of bounds.



Figure 11

- Video review shows a team contacted the ball four or more times.



Figure 12

- Video review shows the same player used two separate and distinct attempts to contact the ball.



Figure 13

- Video review shows there was a touch on the ball that resulted in an illegal attack by a back-row player.



Figure 14

- Video review shows there was a touch on the ball that resulted in an illegal block by a back-row player.



Figure 15

- Video review shows there was a touch on the ball that resulted in illegal reaching beyond the net or that there was interference above the net



Figure 16

Net Fault Category

- Video review shows a player contacted the net while in the act of playing the ball.
 - Both referees also show the number of the player who committed the net fault.



Figure 17

Illegal Attack Category

- Video review shows a back-row player's take-off point was on or in front of the attack line



Figure 14

- Video review shows a libero's foot/feet or take-off point was on or in front of the attack line when using a finger pass to set a teammate.
 - The second referee also signals with an open hand toward the center of the court (as if indicating the libero).



Figure 14

Service Foot Fault Category

- Video shows a player committed a service foot fault

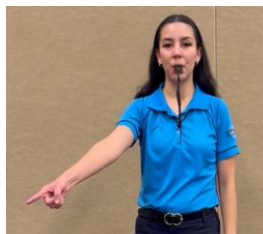


Figure 18

- If there is not indisputable video evidence to change the original outcome, the original point is re-signaled followed by the “call stands” signal (*Figures 19a and 19b*).
 - The first referee mimics the point signal.

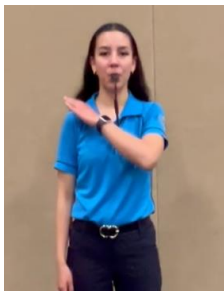


Figure 19a



Figure 19b

CHAPTER 4

Officials' Responsibilities

Pre-Match

- Both referees should meet with the event manager prior to the match to discuss these topics:
 - Ensure that the coaches' challenge cards are available and placed near each bench, at the end of the scorer's table.
 - Identify the location of the review monitor and review technician.
 - Review the number and location of the cameras and the views they provide.
- The second referee's pre-match duties include:
 - Meet with the review technician and review the procedure when a challenge is accepted by the second referee.
 - Meet with the announcer and verify that the announcer has a script to use when a challenge occurs.
 - If the match is televised, meet with the timeout coordinator to review procedures.
 - Brief the scorer and assistant scorer.
 - Brief the scoreboard operator.
- During the pre-match coaches' meetings, remind the coaches that CRS and briefly review the CRS protocols as needed.
 - The coach has two challenges to use in the match plus an extra challenge if the match extends to five sets (not to exceed two challenges in the fifth set).
 - Ask the coach if he or she would like to review the camera angles.

Between Sets

The second referee ensures the challenge cards are still available at each bench.

CHAPTER 5

Using a Review Official

NCAA rules allow the use of a review official who will review the available video instead of the second referee and make the determination about whether the original outcome is confirmed, reversed, or stands. The mechanics change when a review official is used.

- After accepting the challenge, the second referee immediately communicates the nature of the challenge to the review official.
- As the review official starts the video review process, the second referee communicates with the scorers, announcer, and timeout coordinator and then moves to the sideline across from the review official.
- Only the review official views the video. The review official indicates that a decision has been made by raising a hand.
- The review official informs the second referee of the result of the review, including whether the play in question should be replayed.
- The second referee communicates the result to the scorers, announcer, and timeout coordinator and ensures they have correctly recorded the events, and then turns to the court and signals the decision.

CHAPTER 6

Scorers' Duties

Both the scorer and assistant scorer have responsibilities when a challenge occurs. Communication with the second referee is crucial. The scorers should take the following steps:

- The scorer records the original outcome of the play as the referees signaled, even if it is clear that the play will be challenged. The visible scoreboard operator should record the original decision (point) as well.
- If a substitute was authorized prior to the challenge, record it. If a substitute is approaching the substitution zone, but is not acknowledged by the second referee, do not record it.
- Data is being gathered on the time taken for challenges. The assistant scorer starts a timer as soon as the second referee signals that the challenge is accepted. The challenge time ends when the second referee signals the result of the video review.
 - The time taken for the challenge is not recorded on a scoring form, but on the CRS Data Collection Form. This form is typically provided by event management but is also available on the NCAA Central Hub and the PAVO website.
- After the second referee reviews the video, listen carefully to the second referee's decision regarding the outcome. Ask questions to clarify if needed.
 - If the outcome is reversed, correct the score on the scoresheet using the "mind change" notation, and ensure that the visible scoreboard reflects the reversal.
 - If a substitution was made by either team, the coach has the option of reversing the substitution.
- If the outcome is replayed, record the replay using the "mind change" notation.

- The scorers (and second referee if needed) should communicate to ensure that any substitutions or libero replacements recorded before the challenge are removed.
- The scorer records the outcome in the **COMMENTS** section of the scoresheet (“Challenge #1, State, 6-10, outcome stands” with the challenging team’s score listed first).
- The assistant scorer records the challenge information at the bottom of the libero tracking sheet and completes the Data Collection Form.
 - The Data Collection Form should be given to the second referee immediately after the match, so the data can be entered on the PAVO website.

The Data Collection Form and other pertinent documents can be downloaded from the PAVO website:

<https://pavo.org/Rules-and-Tools/Challenge-Review-System-CRS>.

CHAPTER 7

CRS Procedure During a Media Timeout

As soon as the 15th point is scored, with no team having taken a regular timeout in the set:

- Sound the horn, signal both teams to their respective benches, indicating the start of the media timeout. The 15th point must be put up on the scoreboard.
 - If the second referee is engaged with a coach regarding a possible challenge, the first referee must be proactive in getting the teams to their bench area.
- The scoreboard operator will start the clock using the normal protocol for a media timeout (for the NCAA Championships, all timeouts will be 90 seconds).
- If the challenge is accepted, the second referee will then follow the usual challenge acceptance protocol.
- When communicating the challenge to the score table, include the time-out coordinator (TOC), reminding them that this is a media timeout, but the challenge review is starting.
- If the review is completed prior to the completion of the media timeout, the media timeout protocol will be completed **PRIOR** to the result whistle and signal that ends the review process.
 - This does not preclude communication of the result to the table as per usual protocol, but the scoreboard operator and announcer should wait until the second referee whistles and signals the result to correct the scoreboard, if necessary, and to announce the result. The coaches may be informed of the result if circumstances allow.
 - The second referee should communicate clearly with the assistant scorer regarding the starting and ending point of the review, so the data form is accurate.

- If the review lasts longer than the media timeout, the teams may remain at their respective benches. The scoreboard operator will hold the horn until the end of the review, at which time the referees will motion the teams back to the court, ending the media timeout.
- After the teams have returned to the court AND the TOC indicates TV is back from the media timeout, the second referee will face the court, whistle, and indicate the result of the challenge.
- If the original decision is reversed, resulting in the score reverting to 14, there will NOT be another media timeout when the score reaches 15 again.

Push-to-Talk Announcement Procedures

Pre-Review and Post-Review Specifics

Keep the announcement succinct, using terminology that parallels the CRS Data Sheet and challengeable categories in the NCAA Rules Book.

Procedure

- Be sure you understand how to work the PTT microphone and test it before the match begins.
 - Some microphones require you to hold the button down while you talk.
 - For others, you push the button and let go to make the announcement; when done, push the button again to toggle off.
- All challenges will be accepted and announced by the R2.
- The R2 still executes all signals and techniques – double whistle, signal with raised fist, signal challenge category, and report to the scorers and replay tech.
 - If the PTT announcement **is** broadcast to the arena, then expedited communication is **NOT** needed.
 - If the PTT announcement **is not** broadcast to the arena, then use expedited communication and report to the announcer to inform the arena.
- Prior to the review, the R2 will:
 - Go to the microphone
 - Find the correct line from the PTT “Pre-Review Script”
 - **Raise one hand** to signal the PA team (announcer, DJ, etc.) that you are about to speak
 - Take a deep breath and organize your thoughts before you start to talk

- Slowly and clearly read from the script to announce:
 - Who is challenging -AND-
 - What is being challenged
 - If the challenge is for an action that is NOT the terminating play, add “**in the middle of the play**” to the end of the appropriate script line
- After the review, the R2 will:
 - Report the results to the replay tech
 - Go back to the microphone
 - Find the correct line from the PTT “Post-Review Script”
 - **Raise one hand** to signal the PA team (announcer, DJ, etc.) that you are about to speak
 - Take a deep breath and organize your thoughts before you start to talk
 - Slowly and clearly read from the script to announce:
 - The result of the challenge review -AND-
 - **IF REVERSED** – State which team will get the point or if the rally will be replayed, and that the challenging team will retain their challenge
 - **IF CONFIRMED/STANDS** – State which team loses a challenge
 - If further information is needed (like for a bundled review), state what was seen on the video using 10 words or less
- Once you have completed the PTT post-challenge announcement:
 - Verify that the scorers have all the information recorded
 - If the PTT announcement **is not** in the arena, then also report to the announcer
 - Move quickly to the fault side, single whistle, and signal the result of the review
 - Check with your scorers one last time to make sure they are ready
 - Do a quick bench scan to see if either team needs anything further (lineup check, substitution, a quick explanation, etc.)
 - Hand the match back to the R1 and resume play

Pre-Review Script

- **Touch**

- [Team] is challenging that there **was (a/no) block touch**
- [Team] is challenging that there **was (a/no) defensive touch**
- [Team] is challenging that there **was a touch that would result in an illegal (BRA/BRB/RON)**
- [Team] is challenging that there **was not a touch, which would reverse the illegal (BRA/BRB/RON)**
- [Team] is challenging that there **was a block touch resulting in a legal play**
- [Team] is challenging that there **was no block touch resulting in a 4 team hits**
- [Team] is challenging that there **was a touch resulting in 4 team hits**
- [Team] is challenging that there **was not a touch resulting in 4 team hits**
- [Team] is challenging that there **(were/were not) 2 successive contacts by the same player**

- **In/Out**

- [Team] is challenging that the **ball was in**
- [Team] is challenging that the **ball was out**
- [Team] is challenging that there **(was/was not) an antenna fault**
- [Team] is challenging that the **pancake was (successful/unsuccessful)**

- **Net fault**

- [Team] is challenging that there **(was/was not) a net fault**
- [Team] is challenging that there **(was/was not) an antenna touch fault**

- **Attack line fault**

- [Team] is challenging that there **(was/was not) an attack line fault by the attacker**
- [Team] is challenging that there **(was/was not) an attack line fault by the libero**

- **Service foot fault**
 - *[Team] is challenging that there **(was/was not) a service foot fault***

Post-Review Script

- **CONFIRMED** (based on the specific fault that was challenged)
 - *After review, the call is confirmed – [Team] loses a challenge*
- **CONFIRMED** (based on the bundle, and another fault is seen on review)
 - *After review, the original outcome is confirmed due to **(state new result/fault)** by [Team] – [Team] loses a challenge*
- **REVERSED** (based on the specific fault that was challenged)
 - *After review, the call is reversed, point to [Team]; [Team] retains their challenge -OR-*
 - *After review, the call is reversed, resulting in a replay; [Team] retains their challenge*
- **REVERSED** (based on the bundle, and another fault was seen on review)
 - *After review, the original outcome is reversed due to **(state new result/fault)** by [Team], point to [Team]. [Team] retains their challenge -OR-*
 - *After review, the original outcome is reversed due to **(state new result/fault)** by [Team], resulting in a replay. [Team] retains their challenge.*
- **STANDS**
 - *After review, the call stands due to inconclusive video; [Team] loses a challenge.*
- **TECHNICAL ISSUES**
 - *The review could not be completed due to technical issues, and the play remains as called. [Team] retains their challenge.*

Push-to-Talk and the Media Timeout

- PTT during the media timeout – Announcement goes to both the arena and TV audience
 - Accept the challenge and complete the CRS protocol during the media timeout
 - Since the announcement also goes to the arena, make the pre-challenge PTT announcement
 - At the end of the challenge, report the results to the tech and scorers
 - Once TV has returned from commercial, make the post-challenge announcement. Include:
 - “During the timeout, [Team] challenged the previous play”
 - Then announce the result using the Post-Review Script
 - Quickly move to the fault side of the net, whistle, and signal the result of the challenge
 - This will give TV the opportunity to show the replay and explain the challenge
- PTT during the media timeout – Announcement only goes to the TV audience
 - Accept the challenge and complete the protocol during the media timeout
 - Since the announcement does not go to the arena, have the announcer inform the arena
 - At the end of the challenge, report the results to the tech, scorers, **and announcer**
 - Once TV has returned from commercial, make the post-challenge announcement. Include:
 - “During the timeout, [Team] challenged the previous play”
 - Then announce the result using the Post-Review Script
 - Quickly move to the fault side of the net, whistle, and signal the result of the challenge
 - The announcer informs the arena about the result of the challenge
 - This will give TV the opportunity to show the replay and explain the challenge

- If there will be a delay (20 seconds or more) between the end of the media timeout and TV's return:
 - Report the results to the tech and scorers (and announcer, if needed)
 - Quickly move to the fault side of the net, whistle, and signal the result of the challenge
 - Wait for TV to return from commercial to make the post-challenge announcement. Include:
 - “During the timeout, [Team] challenged the previous play”
 - Announce the result using the Post-Review Script
 - Allow TV the opportunity to show a replay and explain the challenge

CRS Suggested Verbiage for Announcers

Pre-Match Announcements

- If your school did not use CRS last year: New this season, our institution will be using the Challenge Review System. Like many other sports, this rule allows the use of video to review certain decisions by the officials.
- If your school used CRS last year: We will be using the Challenge Review System again this year. Here are some reminders:
- Each team begins the match with two challenges. If the video review results in a reversal of the original outcome, that challenge is retained by the challenging team. If the original outcome stands or is confirmed, the challenging team loses that challenge. If a fifth set is played, each team is awarded an additional challenge at the start of that set not to exceed two challenges.
- After a point is scored, the head coach can challenge specific calls by the officials.
- When you see a coach hold up a challenge card, the second referee will view a video replay.
- After watching the video replay, the second referee decides on ONE of these three potential results:
 - The original outcome is confirmed because the video shows that the call was correct.
 - The original outcome is reversed. This reversal may result in a point for the opponent, or a replay.
 - The original outcome stands because there was not indisputable video evidence to reverse the outcome.
- We hope you enjoy the excitement that the Challenge Review System adds to our sport.

Announcing a Challenge

- The coach from *[team name]* is challenging:
 - That the ball landed in (or out)
 - Whether or not the ball hit the floor on a pancake dig
 - A touch by the defensive team
 - Whether there was contact by the blocker or there were four hits
 - Whether a player touched the ball in a play at the net
 - Whether there was a net fault
 - Whether a back-row attacker's take-off point was on or in front of the attack line
 - Whether the libero's foot/feet or take-off point was in the front zone when they used a finger pass to set the ball to a teammate who then attacked the ball while it was entirely above the top of the net
 - Whether the server committed a foot fault

Suggested Commentary During the Video Review

- Challenged line call
 - The second referee will check video to see if the ball hit the line. Remember, any part of the ball that touches any part of the line is ruled "in."
- OR--**
- The second referee will check video to see if the ball was out. Remember, any part of the ball that touches any part of the line is ruled "in."
- Challenged pancake dig
 - The referee will check video to see if, during the pancake attempt by *[team name]* the ball may have contacted the floor.

--OR--

- The referee will check video to see if *[team name]* got that ball up. They're looking at the video replay to see if it hit the floor or if her hand prevented the ball from hitting the floor.
- Challenged antenna call
 - The referee will check video to see if the ball hit the antenna. A ball that contacts the antenna is out of bounds.
 - OR--**
 - The referee will check the video to see if the ball crossed the net over or outside the antenna, which would be ruled out of bounds.
- Challenged touch call
 - The coach is challenging whether or not the opposing blockers touched the ball before it went out of bounds.
 - The referee will check the video to see if a defender touched the ball before it went out of bounds.
 - OR--**
 - The referee will check the video to see if the touch called on *[team name]* was accurate.
 - The referee will check the video to see if *[team name]* had four hits.
 - OR--**
 - The referee will check the video to see if a player on *[team name]* hit the ball twice in a row.
 - OR--**
 - The referee will check the video to see if the player on *[team name]* touched the ball during the play at the net.
- Challenged net fault
 - The second referee is reviewing a potential net fault. It is possible that the net contact called on *[team name]* was not illegal according to the rules.
 - Remember, not all contact with the net is illegal. A player must be in the act of playing the ball in order to commit a net fault.

- The second referee is reviewing a potential net fault. The coach thinks that *[team name]* committed a net fault that was not called.

NOTE: When a challenge involves an in/out, touch, or net fault decision, the result of the video review can be in, out, touch, or net fault.

- Challenged back-row attacker take-off

- The coach's challenge was accepted because the back-row attacker contacted the ball while it was completely higher than the top of the net, and the coach thinks that the attacker illegally took off on or in front of the attack line.

--OR--

- The coach is challenging that the referee's decision about his/her back-row attacker was incorrect – he/she believes the attacker's take-off was legal, behind the attack line.

- Challenged libero set

- The coach's challenge was accepted because the libero used a finger pass to set a teammate who then contacted the ball while it was completely higher than the top of the net, and the coach thinks that the libero was on or in front of the attack line when completing the finger pass.

--OR--

- The coach is challenging that the referee's decision about his/her libero's position was incorrect – he/she believes the libero was behind the attack line.

- Challenged service foot fault

- The coach is challenging a potential foot fault by *[team name]*.
- Remember that while contacting the ball for service, a server cannot contact the end line or be outside one of the hash marks.
- The server can be airborne behind the end line, above the end line, or above the court while contacting the ball for a serve.
- However, she cannot be touching the floor beyond the hash mark when the serve is contacted.

Announcing the Result of the Video Review

- If the second referee says the original outcome is CONFIRMED:
 - The challenge by *[team name]* was not successful. The original outcome is confirmed – *[team name]* retains the point.
- If the second referee says the original outcome is REVERSED:
 - The challenge by *[team name]* was successful. Point *[team name]*.

--OR--

- The challenge by *[team name]* was successful. The rally will be replayed.
- If the second referee says/signals the original outcome STANDS *[second referee will repeat the original point signal, and then use a secondary signal with one arm and hand moving diagonally from one shoulder to the floor]*
 - The challenge by *[team name]* was not successful. The original outcome stands – *[team name]* retains the point.

APPENDIX B

Event Manager Checklist for CRS

Prior to the First Match of the Season

- Provide the announcer the information/script regarding the CRS.
- Review the conference/institution's policy on use of the video board to show replays before, during, and after the review process, and provide the policy to the video board operator.
- Ensure the scorer and assistant scorer have received a copy of the CRS checklist for scorers and assistant scorers.
- Ensure the assistant scorer has a chance to review the CRS Data Collection Form and associated instructions.
- Encourage the scorer to review the protocol for recording a referee mind change.
- Create challenge cards according to these specifications:
 - Minimum of 3" x 5" not to exceed 4" x 6".
 - Color is jasmine green (PANTONE color 15-0545).
 - Cards should be laminated.

Before the Match

- Ensure the review technician is courtside and available to the referees at least 40 minutes prior to the start of the match.
- Show the camera angles/views available on the monitor if requested by either head coach.
- Inform the second referee of the location of the review monitor and identify the review technician to the referees.
- Be prepared to show the referees the camera angles/views available on the monitor.
- Ensure the challenge cards are on the scorer's table next to each team's bench. Have an extra challenge card on hand in case one is misplaced or damaged.
- Provide the assistant scorer with the CRS Data Collection Form.

During the Match

- Between sets, verify that the challenge review cards are on the scorer's table next to each team's bench.
- Be available to assist the second referee should any technical issues occur with the CRS.
- Ensure the video board operator is following the conference's CRS protocol.
- Be prepared to assist the second referee if a coach continues to attempt to view the monitor.

After the Match

- Ensure the assistant scorer gives the Data Collection Form to the referees in the officials' dressing area.