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## 2014-15 VOLLEYBALL POINTS OF EMPHASIS

**Marking of Court Boundary Lines** – Rule 2-1-2 recommends that all boundary lines be of **one clearly visible color** contrasting to the color of the floor and other lines on the floor. Except as provided for by rule for the center line, schools are expected to meet this standard for volleyball court boundary line markings. For fair competition for both teams, it is extremely important that the lines be one clearly visible color. The only time the color should differ is if going across a painted area such as the lane in basketball and the original color would not be in contrast. With players generally looking up to play the ball, it is important that the lines are clearly visible to quickly observe where the player is on the court and where the ball may be going, in bounds or out of bounds. Schools that try to circumvent this standard are negatively impacting the game.

**Hand Signals for Player Numbers** – It is important for the referees to discuss the ways in which they will communicate with each other through informal, non-verbal signals. One very important area to discuss is the signaling of players' numbers. There is a suggested standard for signaling players' numbers as provided in detail in the NFHS Case Book and Officials Manual. When a player is in the net, the referees will communicate the number of the player in violation. This signaling also provides assistance in communicating to the coaches, players and fans as to the offender. Many times in high school volleyball the officials may have never or infrequently worked with one another, so consistency in the use of the hand signals for communication is very important. Thus, the standard signals and procedure should be reviewed each year and followed by referees.

**Informal Signals from Second Referee to First Referee for Situations Out of View of First Referee** – There may be occasions when, due to the location of the play and angle of the players, there is play that is under the responsibility of the first referee but is clearly out of the view of the first referee. In such a situation, the second referee shall assist the first referee by ruling upon such a situation and this is done through a visual, informal signal. During the referees' prematch conference with each other, how such signals will be conveyed should be discussed. It is important that the first referee make good eye contact with the second referee and know how they will communicate in advance. It is also important for the first referee to anticipate when he/she may have been blocked out of properly observing a play. The second referee should hold the informal signal long enough for the first referee to observe. Should the first referee not accept that call, he/she was not blocked from viewing and disagrees with the second referee's call, the first referee's call will stand. Both referees must be alert and pay attention to one another when these unusual situations may arise where the assistance of the second referee is important to get the call right.