



Welcome to the 2020-21 Volleyball Season



*The interscholastic volleyball season has arrived!
Here are a few items about which coaches and
officials should be aware before the season begins.*

NFHS Rules modifications include, but are not limited to, the following items. Visit www.mhsa.org to view the complete NFHS rules changes, editorial changes and points of emphasis.

MHSA

For MHSA volleyball post season play, the Baden Lexum Comp VX450c-210 red/white/navy blue microfiber composite volleyball will be used. For regular season play, a solid white volleyball may be used. If a colored volleyball is used for regular season play, it can only be a red/white/navy blue colored volleyball. For both regular season and post season play, any volleyball used for all levels of play shall include NFHS authenticating mark.

Although this is a MHSA Rule (not a NFHS Rule) some officials may be asked the question if a sub-varsity player can start in a varsity contest. The MHSA Rule is: The Association prohibits students of member schools from entering a preliminary contest and then starting in the varsity contest the same day, except Class C when there are insufficient non-varsity players to play a junior varsity contest, schools may, by mutual consent of coaches involved, play no more than two (2) varsity starters in the JV contest. Because the libero can't start a match and is not considered a starting player, a player could play in a sub-varsity match and replace a varsity starter as the libero in the varsity match.

2020-2021 Volleyball Rule Changes

4-1-4 (NEW): Allows the use of a molded protective face mask made of hard material during play.

Rationale: Creates consistency with other NFHS rules codes.

7-1-1; 7-1-1 PENALTIES; 7-1-1 PENALTIES 2 (NEW); 9-9-1a (NEW); 10-3-7b: Eliminates the loss of rally/point penalty for failure to submit the team roster during the prematch conference and replaces the penalty with an unnecessary delay (administrative yellow card).

Rationale: Eliminates the double penalty for a late roster and an incorrect roster before the start of the match.

7-1-4a(1) & (2) NEW: Allows a team to correct a submitted lineup if it lists a libero number that no team member is wearing.

Rationale: Creates consistency in allowing the correction of a clerical error (listing a number that no team member is wearing) on the lineup for a starting position and the libero position.

12-2-6: Establishes that a yellow card issued for unsporting conduct to the head coach, assistant coach(es) or team bench will no longer require the head coach to remain seated, while maintaining that a red unsporting conduct card will require the head coach to remain seated for the remainder of the match.

Rationale: Creates a penalty progression by allowing an official to warn a head coach with a yellow unsporting conduct card without requiring the coach to remain seated for the remainder of the match.

Official Signal #15: Establishes that an official will rotate their forearms around each other with closed hands to signal substitution.

Rationale: Aligns with current trends of the sport.

2020-21 VOLLEYBALL MAJOR EDITORIAL CHANGES

4-2-1e: Removes language referencing the size restrictions of mascots and/or school names placed on the uniform sleeve as a part of the 2019-20 uniform rules changes.

10-3-6b, 10-3-6c, 10-3-6 NOTE (NEW): Clarifies the order of priority for an exceptional substitution for an injured/ill player aligning the language with Rule 10-4-3b.

2020-21 Volleyball Editorial Changes

5-4-3c(22); 5-4-4b, c; 5-5-3b(20); 9-7 PENALTIES 3; Rule 9 Unnecessary Delay Chart (NEW)

2020-21 Volleyball Points of Emphasis

1. Bench Behavior/Sportsmanship
2. Management of Non-Team Personnel
3. Officials' Communication
4. Uniform Bottom Compliance