

FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE VOLLEYBALL  
BEACH VOLLEYBALL  
FIVB RULES CASEBOOK

**FIVB**<sup>TM</sup>



FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE  
DE VOLLEYBALL

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Welcome to the 2012 Edition of the Beach Volleyball Casebook, which once again I have the pleasure to provide you with hoping that it will add to your knowledge of Beach Volleyball rules and officiating.

This Casebook is part of the overall package that forms the foundation of Beach Volleyball officiating references and should be used as a complement to the Rules of the Game, the Refereeing Guidelines and the various Protocols.

Beach Volleyball has developed tremendously in the last two decades and into the new millennium, spreading throughout the world through effective marketing and promotion and the influence of the Swatch-FIVB World Tour and FIVB Beach Volleyball World Championships properties. The creation of new FIVB Beach Volleyball competitions (Continental Beach Volleyball Cup and FIVB Beach Volleyball World Cup Olympic Qualification) will be an important tool for the development of the discipline of Beach Volleyball since it is meant to involve all Continental Confederations and at least 150 affiliated National Federations.

With this rapid growth not only in promotion, organization and technical aspects changes have come in the rules. Continuous rally scoring plus smaller court maintains spectator excitement and game drama. New rules, attractive look; vibrant ball colours bring a new era to the game making it more dramatic and entertaining than ever before.

For the game to maintain its impetus as a sport that can appeal to the general public, while maintaining its unique outdoor image and marketability, consistency in application of the rules world- wide becomes increasingly important. This is the principal reason for publishing a first edition of the Official Beach Volleyball Casebook, to aid the consistent application of the rules of Beach Volleyball.

## **Message from Mr. Sinjin Smith, member of the FIVB Beach Volleyball Commission**

The rules of the beach game are meant to create fair play. In today's commercial world we must also make the game as interesting as we can to the public, particularly the television public. This said we must not destroy the integrity of the game in doing so.

The objectives of our rules after we have accomplished fair play is to keep the referee out of the game as much as possible, to allow the personality of the players to come out during the game, to keep the game moving and interesting to the public.

The beach game has been very lucky in so far as the FIVB has made it possible to make necessary changes when needed to benefit this fast growing and ever changing sport.

## Players' perspectives on the Rules' Casebook

"This book is a serious contribution to the understanding of the game, for both players and referees, as well as anybody else who loves Beach Volleyball.

Always interesting, sometimes amusing, it was great fun to read! "

Marrit Leenstra  
FIVB Women Player

"The Beach Volleyball Rules' Casebook is a fantastic summary of unusual and special incidents that have happened in our beloved sport. The Casebook analyses each incident and discusses the issues around it to provide a helping hand for all referees whether experienced or inexperienced to solve critical situations in a professional way before, during and after the match. The cases also provide support and information for players, media and fans to understand and follow the way decision making process is made by the referees. Enjoy the game...!"

Sascha Heyer  
FIVB Men Player

## CONTEXT FOR OFFICIATING

REFEREES apply the Rules of the Game. Officiating at Beach Volleyball events requires constant awareness to a change and / or interpretation of the official Beach Volleyball rules. For the correct application of the rules, REFEREES must know them faultlessly and apply them decisively and correctly within the context of the game.

The rules must reflect the demands of the development of the sport. When they are formulated and / or modified, the following factors should naturally be taken into consideration:

- Technical and tactical development
- **Spectacular elements**
- Publicity, marketing and promotion
- Financial requirements
- Cultural, recreational and societal changes

REFEREES must be able to take correct decisions with authority whenever a situation arises which is not specifically clarified in the rules. REFEREES should have a complete knowledge of the theoretical Refereeing guidelines and of the general functions of the rules, which:

- Define the characteristics of the game
- Define proper techniques
- Allow the game to be played safely under fair conditions
- Encourage sportsmanship
- Encourage top performance and **(the) spectacular play**
- Allow a game that can be marketed and promoted well

This will allow REFEREES to work much more accurately and follow the “spirit of the rules”.

## PERFORMANCE OF OFFICIALS

The FIVB Refereeing Delegate is responsible for all Refereeing issues and reports to the FIVB Technical Supervisor. The FIVB Refereeing Delegate will work to instruct, facilitate the work of and provide feedback to officials working in various capacities.

Referees also work under close co-ordination with the Refereeing Manager at a given event. Together with the Host TV Broadcaster, Promoter and other Officials, they must also ensure that production and organizational needs of television are met. These include match protocol, TV replays, official photographer and TV camera positions on the field of play.

Although Beach Volleyball is a **form** of Volleyball, there are fundamental differences in the playing numbers, techniques of the players, match formats and nature of the conditions, which guide the differences in the rules between these two forms of the game. Therefore, there are REFEREEING techniques, interpretations, protocols and situations, which are different. REFEREES must understand these clearly.

In conclusion, REFEREES not only have to perform their duties and direct the match according to the Text of the rules and its spirit, but their REFEREEING performance is also governed by contributing factors such as health (physical and mental), legal factors (health and safety laws, drug testing and Code of Conduct) and social factors which are not purely technical in nature. REFEREES should always remember that they are not only there to officiate; each one is also a teacher, promoter and administrator and may be required to assist the Referee Delegate if requested. In this way all REFEREES have a delegated responsibility to act in the best interests of the FIVB and its various stakeholders. REFEREES should be closely aware of these factors, conduct their duties following ethical considerations, both on and off the court, while also directing the match accordingly under the rules.

## THIS CASEBOOK

In publishing the FIVB Rules Casebook for Beach Volleyball, it is anticipated that the book will be of great assistance and will be widely used to bring into play the task of unifying the world wide application of the Rules of Beach Volleyball

This Casebook is a collection of situations each with official rulings approved by the FIVB Rules of the Game Commission, FIVB Refereeing Commissioner, and the FIVB Beach Volleyball Permanent Committee. The rulings are intended to clarify the spirit and meaning of the official Beach Volleyball Rules and are the official interpretations to be followed during all sanctioned competitions.

It is hoped that this publication of a Casebook will assist referees and beach **volleyball practitioners** to better understand the rules and their application.

This is a revised edition based on the first edition completed in 1998 and updated for the rule changes **subsequently** enforced. It corresponds to the latest edition of the FIVB Beach Volleyball Rules of the Game posted at the FIVB website at <http://www.fivb.org/EN/BeachVolleyball/Rules/rules.htm>

The FIVB RULES CASEBOOK FOR BEACH VOLLEYBALL **was** originally written by Mr. Andrew Hercus. This 2012 edition is the responsibility of Mr. Jose Casanova (FIVB Beach Volleyball Refereeing Commissioner) assisted by Mr. Richard Casutt, **and with contributions from the FIVB Rules of the Game and Refereeing Commissions.**

## NOTES

- The teams have been identified by country code e.g.: USA and men's and women's (M), (W). Neither individual players nor specific tournaments are identified although most of the cases come from FIVB World Tour events.
- Where further description is required players are described #1 and #2 depending on the case.
- The words Supervisor(s) are used generically to indicate either the Technical Supervisor or Referee Delegate
- Cases related to "ball mark protocol" and the "Misconduct sanction fee scale" have been adjusted to the current specific regulations.

Any questions regarding this Casebook should be sent to the following E-mail address:

Mr. Jose Casanova: [jcasanova@netmadeira.com](mailto:jcasanova@netmadeira.com)

# PART I:

  

# CASES

# CHAPTER 1

## FACILITIES AND PLAYING EQUIPMENT

### PLAYING AREA

**1.1** In a match between ARG and INA (M), the players discover a large piece of wood under the sand in the middle of the playing court. The referee stops play and quickly allows the object to be removed; the sand is levelled and the court checked before play is resumed. Is this correct handling of this situation?

The referees are correct in taking this action. **Players'** safety is an important consideration at all times.

Referees must continually check the playing court and equipment and take corrective action if anything unsafe is discovered.

Referees must know the location of the court staff, approved equipment, accredited medical staff, **etc, in order** to ensure quick and effective responses to such situations.

Additionally line judges play an important part in checking the condition of the playing area during a match. **Players'** safety is an important aspect of all officials' work. The Supervisor can temporarily authorize a playing court not to be used, if it is not safe (e.g. **a** large object under **the** sand requiring extensive digging).

**1.2** During their **pre-match** inspection of the court the referees notice that there were exposed metal anchors at the corner lines and exposed metal wires securing the net and post. The referee delayed the match until both pieces of equipment had been protected. Is this the correct handling of this situation?

The referees are correct in delaying the start of the match. The match should not commence until the playing court and equipment is safe for the players. This must be checked prior to the commencement of play, being part of a referee's **pre-match** inspection of the equipment and playing court.

**1.3** During an exciting rally the player of CAN (M) successfully dives to retrieve the ball. In making this play the line is strongly pulled and the anchors are removed from the ground in one corner. The court is now irregular in shape. Should the referee allow play to continue?

Play should not continue, as the court does not comply with Rule 1.1.1. Additionally the court lines and anchors may now present a danger to the player(s). The 1<sup>st</sup> referee should immediately whistle and call a replay if there is any chance that the ball will remain in play.

**1.4** During the match ITA vs. FRA (M), the ITA player runs to recover a ball near the sideline. In making this play his

The referees in their **pre-match** inspection of the court should have found this potential danger to the players and

foot contacts a metal anchor just under the sand, which has been used to secure the court lines. The resulting injury means that the player is unable to continue the match. What should the referees have done, in order to potentially avoid this situation?

should have **resolved the problem**.

Metal anchors are illegal to secure lines under any circumstance. Prior to the match, referees must **check the whole playing area and all the equipment**, especially the lines, playing surface, poles, referee's chair and signage for potential danger.

This injury could have been prevented by correct preventative action by the referees.

**1.5** At the start of a men's World Tour match CHI v ARG the teams state to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee that the court has not been correctly raked and levelled between matches and that it presents a danger to both teams. What should be the response of the referee?

The referee should initially verify the accuracy of the **teams' request**, allowing the raking to take place if the players are correct.

Playing areas should be raked and levelled between matches as much as **possible**, concentrating on the following areas:

- (1) Area around the net (1-2 metres)
- (2) Service reception area
- (3) Court lines (both inside and outside by 1 metre)
- (4) Service area especially after jump serving

Raking should take place during a match only if a significant danger is apparent to the players. Because an **unraked** court is not necessarily dangerous, each situation must be judged on its individual merits. Referees should ensure that the preparation of the court is properly completed before commencing the **official protocol of the match**, especially ensuring that the match conditions are equal for both teams.

**1.6** The RUS (M) team was playing on a court that had sponsorship signage at the back of both service lines. However it was not completely surrounding the back of the court on one side. The RUS player went back to serve. He walked between the signs and stood outside the line of the signage, waiting for authorization to serve. Should the 1<sup>st</sup> referee authorize service?

The 1<sup>st</sup> referee must not authorize service but should insist that the player move inside the line of the signage.

The player cannot serve from outside the free zone even though in this case it is not completely regular in shape.

Both teams should be treated equally in respect of the potential size of their service zone.

The referee should recommend to the Supervisor (who

1.7 In a World Tour match the players of both teams AUS and USA (W) approach the 1<sup>st</sup> referee requesting that she stop play due to the strong rain. What are the procedures the referee(s) should follow in making this decision?

authorizes the court staff) that this situation be corrected so that the service zone for both teams is equal in size and lies between 5 and 6m from the court lines. It must be symmetrical in nature.

The referee(s) must remember that the decision to completely stop playing is usually made by the tournament Supervisor(s). Therefore a referee should in these circumstances:

- (1) Continue play until the Supervisor makes a clear decision to stop play (not the players).
- (2) Authorize requests such as a Timeout.
- (3) Request the use of additional equipment such as towels, protective coverings and balls to enable the match to continue.
- (4) Stop play and ask the players to return to their designated chairs only if there is a significant danger to the players from lightning, sudden wind gusts, etc, or the Supervisors are unavailable.

1.8 During the pre match protocol a player from USA (M) requests that the 1<sup>st</sup> referee authorise the watering of the court before the match starts. The referee declines this request considering that the court is in an acceptable playing condition. Later during the set the same USA player leaves the playing area without permission of the officials and then proceeds to utilise a watering hose to water only his side of the court (upon returning to the court). What actions should the officials take in this circumstance?

There are a number of factors to consider in this situation.

Firstly while it is a 1<sup>st</sup> referees responsibility to consider the safety of players (e.g.: condition of the court) the Supervisor is required to make a final authorisation on some areas that potentially delay or change the pace of the game significantly (watering of court in protocol, time between rallies, shifting the sand etc).

Before the match has commenced the 1<sup>st</sup> referee should request that the Supervisor authorise the watering of the court.

During the match any watering of the court can be dealt with by the referee within the time between sets / timeout / Technical Timeout but it should be conducted so as not to delay the match and should benefit both teams equally.

The USA player should be sanctioned (assuming no prior

delay sanctions) initially for ignoring the requests of the referees (Delay Warning) and then subsequently for delaying the match by watering the court (Delay Penalty).

In this complex case the 1<sup>st</sup> referee should request that the Supervisor should come to the court.

## NET AND POSTS

**1.9** During the official warm up the team of RSA (M) requests that the referees verify the height of the net. How should the referees respond to this request?

The referees should between matches have verified the height of the net.

Many net systems are free standing and **are** easily altered by people pulling down on the net.

Referees should understand different heights, tension systems and construction of net systems.

**1.10** In a match between RSA and USA (M), at the score 0-3, the USA captain tells the 1<sup>st</sup> referee that the net height is incorrect and requests that it be checked. After having checked the net, the height is found to be 3 centimetres too low, in the centre. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee asks the court manager to fix the net height and subsequently the match is resumed with no change to the score. Was the 1<sup>st</sup> referee correct in these actions?

The referee is correct in these actions, as there is no way to determine exactly when the net height was originally incorrect. **However, there** should have been a check of the net height prior to the start of the match to reduce the likelihood of this problem occurring. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee has correctly stopped the match to fix the incorrect net height, as play cannot continue with a net that has been verified as being non-regulation in height. It is good officiating practice in most circumstances to consider **the request from both the captains of the teams as legitimate.**

**1.11** During the 2001 Goodwill Games in Brisbane, Australia, there was extensive **use of** TV microphones / earpieces attached to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee. This equipment took over one minute to attach to / detach from the 1<sup>st</sup> referee. Under these circumstances is it compulsory for the 1<sup>st</sup> referee to undertake the toss prior to the 3<sup>rd</sup> and deciding set given the potential time delays it would create?

No, it is not compulsory for the 1<sup>st</sup> referee to undertake the coin toss for the 3<sup>rd</sup> set. However he / she must:

- (1) Have this action authorised by a Supervisor
- (2) Explain to the players at the first coin toss the situation

The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee must ensure that they follow the correct procedures for the 3<sup>rd</sup> set coin toss and have the necessary equipment (coin).

## BALL

**1.12** In a World Tour (M/W) Tournament in Hermosa, USA, 10 playing courts were used. Due to a low number of auxiliary officials and a shortage of balls some courts used only a 1-ball system instead of a 3-ball system. Is this a correct interpretation of the rules?

This is a correct interpretation. Under exceptional circumstances this is allowable, providing it is approved by the Tournament Supervisor and is consistently applied during the match (es).

The referees should have discussed this decision with the Tournament Supervisor before implementing this decision, after having exhausted other alternative solutions. It should be implemented before, not during a match.

The 1 ball system should be clearly explained to the players, especially what to do with the ball between rallies.

Referees should not allow one team to use this situation to alter the pace of the match, especially in prolonging the time between rallies beyond 12 seconds.

**1.13** In Brazilian Tournaments during the month of February the temperatures are often very hot. The players often request that the referees check the pressure of the ball. What should the referees do to avoid this problem?

Referees must ensure that the ball does not get exposed to direct sun for long periods, thus significantly altering its pressure. Balls will naturally change pressure during the day with changes in the heat so the following should be checked, before each match:

- (1) The location of the reserve balls should be dry and not in direct sunlight for long periods of time.
- (2) The pressure must be checked prior to the match and be consistent for all balls including reserve balls.
- (3) A pressure gauge, manual pump, and a valve should be available.
- (4) Balls should be clearly labelled / signed so that they can be grouped with other similar balls
- (5) The ball pressure should initially be set at the lower end of the scale (195-200 hPa)
- (6) A rotation of balls during an individual match may be used in exceptional circumstances.

**1.14** In Asian Tournaments during the monsoon (wet

Referees must ensure that the ball does not get very wet or

season) play is often affected by rain. What should a referee do so that the ball pressure and weight remain constant?

moist, thus altering its pressure and weight.

The following should be checked both before the match and during the match:

- (1) Number of balls available: - the number of balls may need to be increased, (e.g.: to 5) allowing them to be dried as often as possible.
- (2) Location of the reserve balls: -should be dry and not in direct sunlight.
- (3) Towels should be used by the ball retrievers especially those near the server.
- (4) A pressure gauge, manual pump, valve, and scales should be available.
- (5) Bags or other protective items should be available to protect the balls.
- (6) A rotation of balls during an individual match may be used in exceptional circumstances.
- (7) The ball's pressure and condition should be checked before the start of each match. If weather conditions change during a match (i.e. temperature rise or drop) the pressure should be checked between each set..

**1.15** During a match at the 2002 Asian Games, the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee notices that there are 4 balls being utilised by the ball retrievers. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee chooses one of the balls and places it on the scorer's table. Later in the match one of the match balls flies over the grandstand and lands in the nearby sea. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee then replaces the wet match ball with the reserve ball and the match resumes. What procedures should a 2<sup>nd</sup> referee follow in monitoring the reserve balls both before and during a match?

It is clearly the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee's responsibility to oversee the process of utilisation of match balls. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee should:

- (1) Initially check that three match balls are ready to be used at the start of the match
- (2) Once play has started, monitor the system being used by the ball retrievers and oversee carefully the situation where a new ball needs to be introduced. A new ball should only be used with the permission of a match official
- (3) If a reserve ball is no longer suitable for play, it should not be put in a position such that it could enter the rotation of match balls being used (e.g.: under the scorer's table)
- (4) Always ensure that a minimum of 1 suitable reserve ball is available

If there are excessive problems in the match with a 3 ball system (e.g.: too many balls becoming unusable) the 1<sup>st</sup>

referee may authorise use of a 1 ball system.

## CHAPTER 2

### PARTICIPANTS

#### TEAMS

2.1 After the whistle for the end of a timeout, the BRA (W) team is **seen** communicating with their coach who is outside the free zone. The players are slow in returning to the court from the **timeout**, thus delaying the match. The referee penalizes BRA with a Delay warning. Is this correct action by the referee?

The referee is correct in penalising the BRA team in this way. Players must not delay the match at any time. This action of delaying the game for the purpose of coaching is penalised as a **Delay Warning or Penalty** if the players have already received a delay warning. The referee should also request that the Supervisor come to the side of the court to investigate the **issue** of coaching.

2.2 In a match between NOR and BRA (M) the player of NOR brings to the referee's **attention the fact that** the BRA team is being continually coached and is receiving tactical information. What should the referee do?

There are 5 important steps that the referee should follow:

- (1) As much as possible confirm that the communication with the coach is **actually** taking place, especially by using the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee.
- (2) Initially request to the offending team that this coaching stop.
- (3) Request that a Supervisor come to the side of the court.
- (4) Advise the Supervisor of the situation. The Supervisor is responsible for dealing with the coaching
- (5) Avoid any delays to the match in observing and communicating to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Referee and **Supervisor** the possibility of coaching.

It is not possible to penalise the coach directly for misconduct or penalise the players for the coach's actions except if the coach's actions lead the players to break the rules of the game (for example delays). The coach should be treated as a spectator who has caused external interference to the match and **this** can be dealt with by the Tournament Supervisor.

## PLAYERS EQUIPMENT

**2.3** NOR (W) were playing JPN when the referee noticed a player with a sharp diamond ring on her finger during the official warm up. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee asked her to remove the ring. She replied that it was impossible to remove it from her finger. How should the referee respond?

The referee should insist that the ring be taped so as not to cause any possible injury to the participants. Referees should always check for jewellery or other dangerous objects during the warm up period, bringing any concerns to the attention of the players.

**2.4** During the official warm up period the referee notices that the teams of KOR and FRA (W) have the same coloured playing uniforms. What should the referee do?

The referee should act quickly so as to avoid a lengthy delay:

**Reference: Case 10.1**

- (1) Initially try to establish a resolution of the problem by agreement of the teams.
- (2) Conduct a coin toss in accordance with Rule 5.2.1.
- (3) Notify a Supervisor of this problem, only if the problem cannot be resolved.
- (4) If all other possible alternatives are exhausted record details of the problem in the remarks section of the score sheet and commence the match with the permission of the Supervisor.

Referees should, as much as possible, deal with this situation between the two teams before the match without involving the Supervisors. Players must enter the playing area in correct uniform, so the referees **should** check for this problem just prior to the entry of the teams.

**2.5** Prior to the start of the match the USA (W) player approaches the referee to check that her under shorts are legal. She explains that she has a medical injury. The referee allows the player to play with the under shorts. Is this correct?

The Supervisor has the final decision on legality of uniforms. The referee can authorize a player to play with under shorts, under shirts or similar items of apparel in exceptional circumstances. However, referees are required to refer these questions to the Supervisor for consistency of application under the FIVB's regulations. This should be dealt with before the match can commence and then be noted on the score sheet.

**2.6** AUS (M) was playing in a match when a player's shorts accidentally became badly torn. The referee allowed the

The referee has acted correctly in fixing this situation quickly. The teams would not be charged a time out or

player to replace the shorts with a matching pair, without significant delay to the match. Is this correct procedure by the referee?

delay sanction. Referees must check that the condition of the players' uniforms are consistent with the respective uniform regulations and the image the sport of Beach Volleyball conveys. It is the players' responsibility to have a matching set of uniforms.

The referee may require both players to change any item of their uniforms to a new set if they are unable to provide a matching pair of the original uniforms.

**2.7** During a World Tour match the referee notices that the USA (M) player is wearing a watch during the official warm up period. He takes no action and allows the player to play the match wearing the watch. Is this correct?

The referee is correct. A player can legally wear a watch.

However the referee should bring their safety concerns to the attention of the player if they consider that it presents a danger to the participants.

They may not insist that the player remove the watch but can note this fact in the remarks section of the score sheet and inform the Supervisor.

**2.8** Due to extreme heat the sand is very hot. The USA (M) player approaches the referee and requests that he be allowed to play in socks. The referee allows the player to play in socks. Is this correct application of the rules?

Players may request that they be able to wear footwear of various types including socks, rubber booties or shoes.

Referees should accept this request unless it presents a danger to the participants.

This request must be dealt with quickly and should not delay the match. Additionally, the referee should consider watering the courts between matches. The Referee should notify the Supervisor regarding whether to water the courts.

**2.9** In a match between UKR and BRA (M) the players of UKR are discovered (at the score of 1:6 in Set 1) to be playing in uniforms that do not correspond with their registered names on the score sheet (i.e.: they have the wrong tops on). How should the referees correct this error?

This situation is corrected by changing one or a combination of the uniforms, score sheet and the serving player depending on the situation. No penalty shall apply. The score remains 1:6 and the respective serving team will recommence the match. When the captains sign the Pre-match Signature box on the score sheet, the scorer is specifically required to check that the players' names and uniform numbers match. The captain, in signing the score sheet, is verifying that their team's recorded details are correct.

**Reference: Case 10.2**

## RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTICIPANTS

**2.10** At the end of a rally the NZL players see a line judge signal the touch of the ball off a block. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee does not see the signal of the line judge. Can the players request that the 1<sup>st</sup> referee ask the line judge to repeat **the flag signal**?

The player(s) may politely request to speak to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee and then may request an explanation of the interpretation of the call. The referee must respond to their request and the line judge may be asked to repeat **the flag** signal. Players may state to the referee that the Line judge signalled but they may not insist on the signal being repeated.

As good technique, referees should ensure that they have all available information to make a decision and / or indicate to the players that they are overruling the other official's signal. It is acceptable for a referee to change **his/her** initial call based on new information received from other officials. Collaboration is an important principle in officiating.

**2.11** A play involving a clear misinterpretation of the rules by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee occurs. The players of CHI (M) approach the referee and he states that the referee's decision is final and that no protest would be allowed. Is this a correct statement by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee?

The referee is clearly incorrect and should not respond in this manner. Initially the referee should repeat and explain the decision to the players using the official hand signals etc.

Each player individually has the right to question the referee in this way. If the players do not accept this explanation they may signify their intention to protest under the Protest Protocol regulations. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee must determine whether the request satisfies the criteria for a protest and, if so, does not have the right to refuse the teams protest and must institute the Protocol.

While either player has the right to question the referee, only one may do so on any occasion. If the other player approaches the referee with the same question, the referee must apply a Delay Sanction (warning or penalty, as appropriate).

A legal protest should involve one of the following circumstances:

- (1) The referee misinterpreted or did not correctly apply the rules / regulations, or did not assume the consequences of his/ her decisions.
- (2) There is a scoring error (rotation or match score)
- (3) A technical aspect of the match conditions (weather, light etc)

**2.12** In a match between NOR and BRA (M) the ball is attacked by NOR landing on the service line of the BRA court. The line judge signals out. The NOR team approaches the referee requesting that he check the ball mark. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee wishes to initiate a Ball Mark Protocol. Shortly afterwards, the BRA player wipes away the ball mark with his foot before the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee can check the mark. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee then signals to give NOR the right to serve, then “ball in”, (to clarify the decision) but takes no action against the BRA player. Is this correct?

Note: under the current regulations the checking of the ball mark would be enforced by the 1st referee and not the 2nd referee as referred to in the actual case above. This fact does not, in any case, impact on the principle discussed in this case.

**2.13** In a men’s match between NOR and GEO during the 2006 Swatch-FIVB Grand Slam in Paris, at 11-8 in the 3rd set, the team from NOR attacks the ball and the ball lands near the line. The referee immediately makes his decision and calls the ball out. The NOR team requests a ball mark protocol. At this moment, player no 2 from Georgia, after the decision “ball out” was made by the 1st referee but before the implementation of the ball mark protocol, repositions the line that he had previously moved slightly with his leg while trying to dig the ball. Following this action the NOR team requested a red card for player no 2 from Georgia based on the fact that he had changed the court line conditions before the referee was able to check the ball mark

The 1st referee informed the NOR team that he had sufficient information (all officials agreed that even if the line was moved slightly out by the action of the defending player, the contact of the ball with the ground was still out by a few centimetres) to make the call out and therefore the action of the player did not prevent him from making the final decision. He then sanctioned the concerned player (no 2 from Georgia) with a yellow card for unsportsmanlike

Clearly the BRA player has made an action designed to cover up a fault and should be penalised immediately under the Misconduct scale. However, if the BRA player had, **prior to wiping out the ball mark**, indicated “ball in” to the referees this act in the spirit of the game should not be penalised.

The player, in this circumstance, has acknowledged the initial decision was incorrect, or has clarified the correct decision with the referee (hence the referee now signalling in). A Ball Mark Protocol does not need to be continued.

Clearly the referees had all the information necessary to make the right call. The GEO player has, in any case, made an action which could be interpreted as aiming to cover up a fault and should therefore be sanctioned under the Misconduct scale. In this case, as the action of the player did not prevent the 1st referee from being 100% sure of the correct final call and a Ball Mark Protocol did not need to be implemented, he was correct by sanctioning the GEO player for unsportsmanlike conduct.

However, if the referees were unable to establish the exact point of impact of the ball before the GEO player had moved the line, and a Ball Mark Protocol would be required, then the 1st Referee should have decided to replay the rally as he did not have sufficient information to make the call, and immediately after, sanction the concerned player with a red card for rude conduct.

conduct. Is this correct?

**2.14** At the SWATCH FIVB PAF Open in Aland, during the match ITA vs. SUI (M) at 14:13 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> set ITA hits the ball to the back line of SUI. The line judge shows the ball to be in. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee signals out. ITA player #1 asks for a ball mark protocol to decide if the ball is in or out due to different decisions by the line judge and 1<sup>st</sup> referee. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee clearly states that the ball is out and that the decision is his. He rejects initiating the ball mark protocol and again shows his decision that the ball is out **and gives the service to SUI.**

At this point the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee whistles for court switch as the score is now 15:13 in favour of SUI. When the teams switch sides player #1 for ITA goes to the ball mark and claims the ball to be in. He again requests a ball mark protocol. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee refuses to initiate the process and asks the team to set up for the next serve. ITA refuses to set up saying they want the Referee Delegate to come to the court. At this point the 1<sup>st</sup> referee initiates a ball mark protocol.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee completes the ball mark protocol and the decision is then made that the ball is in, point to ITA, score now 14:14 and not 15:13 as was the original decision.

Is the referee's decision to initiate the ball mark protocol and the final decision correct?

Note: under the current regulations the checking of the ball mark would be enforced by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee and not the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee as referred to in the actual case above. This fact does not in any case impacts in the principle ruled by this case.

**2.15** A player of GER (M) on a number of occasions questions the referee's ability to make decisions and his neutrality. What should the 1<sup>st</sup> referee do?

The referee's decision to not initiate the ball mark protocol when the call was first disputed by ITA is the initial error. If the referee, in pursuit of getting the information necessary to make a correct decision, had initiated the ball mark protocol, then there would not have been the need for the process after the court switch and a decision based on all the appropriate information could have been made.

The referee's decision of ball out at the end of the original playing action is a judgement call. His decision originally **not to** initiate the ball mark protocol based on his interpretation of the information at hand is also a judgement call.

The referee's decision to initiate a ball mark protocol after the court switch constitutes a misinterpretation and wrong application of the ball mark protocol process as the entire playing action is finished with the referee awarding the point, deciding not to initiate the BMP and authorizing the court switch.

It is not a requirement to perform a ball mark protocol at a players request. It is good practice for a referee to perform a ball mark protocol if they are not 100% sure of the decision pending. **The ball mark protocol should be performed as quickly and efficiently** as possible once initiated.

Obviously the primary goal of all officiating is to make the correct decision. This philosophy governs everything that is done by a referee. Based on this, the referee(s) should strive to collect all of the information available and necessary before making the final decision. Officiating by this process of information gathering will reduce the necessity of **incorrectly** initiated protocols and avoid the making of incorrect decisions which ultimately reduce the referee's authority amongst the players.

The rules concerned:

11.3 Ball "IN" and 11.4 Ball "OUT"

A referee should not allow such behaviour. The referee should where possible utilise verbal warnings but still as appropriate consider use of either misconduct warnings or penalties. A referee should always answer all questions in a professional manner and show good judgement as to

what behaviour is or is not acceptable.

**2.16** At the end of a long and difficult match the players of FRA (M) leave the playing court immediately and the captain is unable to be found to sign the score sheet. What should the 1<sup>st</sup> referee do to complete the score sheet?

**Reference: Case 10.3**

Initially the referee(s) and Tournament officials must take all measures possible to find the FRA captain, immediately informing the Supervisor(s) of the occurrence as some subsequent action may need to take place.

If the captain is not found after 20 minutes, the 1st referee is then responsible for addressing the score sheet to the Supervisor(s) after its completion.

It will then be the responsibility of the relevant Supervisor to note the occurrence in the remarks section of the score sheet and sign pp on behalf of the missing captain, if required.

# CHAPTER 3

## POINT, SET AND MATCH WINNER

### SCORING SYSTEM

**3.1** Prior to the match the Technical Supervisor and the BRA (W) player approached the referees. The player confirmed her wish to Default her next match due to a medical injury, which was accepted by the Supervisor. What procedures should the referee follow to record this default on the score sheet?

**Reference: Case 10.4**

**3.2** In a match between USA and AUS (W), the referees do not confirm the service order of the teams between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> sets. At the start of the second set the serving USA teams' player is different from that recorded on the score sheet. What actions should referees undertake between sets to prevent this situation?

The referees should make sure that the score sheet is completed with all the details required, noting the cause of this default in the remarks section of the score sheet. It is not necessary to conduct a coin toss, or warm up period. Both teams should sign the score sheet verifying the result. The referee should inform all players, Supervisors, tournament organisers and officials of the situation regarding the default. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee remains in overall control of the recording of the default proceedings on the score sheet.

Between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> sets it is the responsibility of the referees to:

- (1) Initially ask the team that lost the coin toss before the 1<sup>st</sup> set for their decision.
- (2) Ask the other team for their decision based on the remaining alternatives.

These two steps should determine the team to serve and the respective sides of the court. Additionally the referees should determine

- (3) The teams service order.

Teams have the right to alter their service order and to make a different decision from that of the team winning the coin toss before the 1<sup>st</sup> set. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee should in most circumstances conduct a coin toss between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> sets.

# CHAPTER 4

## PREPARATION OF THE MATCH / STRUCTURE OF PLAY

### PREPARATION OF THE MATCH

4.1 The captains of the teams conduct the coin toss. Having won the coin toss, the BEL captain asks permission to go onto the court for a minute, to help decide which side to choose due to strong winds. The BEL captain signs the score sheet and then goes to his partner on the court. Should the referee have insisted on receiving their decision before allowing the captain to return to the court?

**Reference: Case 10.6**

4.2 In a match between PUR and JPN (W), at the end of the official warm up time, the player from PUR requested to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee for permission to go to the toilet / bathroom. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee authorized this request, which slightly delayed the start of the match. Was the referee correct in authorizing this request?

4.3 The players of DEN and ENG (W) teams are warming up on the centre court. The players ask the referees how

This is acceptable as long as the decision is made quickly (maximum one minute) and allows the scorer enough time to be ready to commence the match at the end of the official warm up period.

The captain may convey the **team's** decision (side and serving order) by signalling to or speaking to the referees and / or scorer. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee should verify that the scorer has received this information.

In a match where television requires the service order or side the decision must be conveyed immediately following the coin toss due to the time required to prepare for the match.

Yes, however, if a player delays the normal sequence of the game while using the toilets, a medical time-out will be assigned to this team/player.

Upon a request by a player to use the toilets, his/her team must be advised that the 1st Referee will start the counting of a medical time-out to be assigned to the relevant player once the time before the start of the match, or the duration of the regular stoppage (TO, TTO, interval, 12" between rallies) has been used for that purpose.

The second Referee must always accompany the player while the first Referee will supervise the situation close to the scorer's table.

Reference: Referee Delegate Manual, Appendix 6, #5

The referee should accept this request, as there is a substantial difference in the conditions from the match

long they will have for their official warm up period. The referee replies 3 minutes as they have had a warm up court available. The players are surprised and they request 5 minutes due to the fact that the warm up courts were outside the stadium, exposed to strong winds and aligned in a different direction. How should the referee reply?

court and the warm up court. Players should be allowed time to utilise the match court in order to acclimatise to the new conditions.

This request should, if possible, be discussed with the Supervisor prior to the official warm up. At the tournament's technical meeting this request should be discussed and the referee's decision should reflect this discussion.

The referees should adjust the timing of the Match Protocol appropriately in order to accommodate the warm up time.

### TEAM LINE UP / PLAYERS POSITIONS

**4.4** The teams of JPN and IND (M) finish their official protocol and enter the court to start their match. The first server for JPN (player #1) goes to the serving position. The Scorer immediately draws the referee's attention to the fact that the score sheet states that the first server should be player #2. Should the referees insist that #2 serve?

**Reference: Case 10.5**

Initially the referees must check the score sheet to determine its correctness. If there is any possibility of an error in the communication or recording of the service order, this should be corrected and player #1 be allowed to serve.

A referee should generally accept this request as it does not change the nature of the match substantially and no comparative advantage is gained.

This error occurs often from communication problems between the players and the officials and must be corrected without significant delay.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee and the scorer must ensure that information is correctly recorded prior to a match.

# CHAPTER 5

## PLAYING ACTIONS

### STATES OF PLAY

**5.1** During the match ITA vs. GRE (W), the ball is contested at the net with a series of quick play actions. It is unclear who touches the ball last. After these actions the ball lands outside the sideline of GRE near the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee. How should both referees signal this situation?

The 2nd referee should initially indicate ball in or out and then the team that now should serve (to assist the 1st referee only). They may also indicate the player who touched the ball last. The 1st referee should observe the line judge and 2nd referee's signal(s) and then signal team to serve, nature of the fault and, if necessary, the player at fault.

It is very important that after situations such as this that the 2nd referee indicates who touched the ball as they are in a good position to see if the ball was played simultaneously or *if it was touched by the player(s) consecutively.*

If the 1st referee decides that the contact was simultaneous, then the result should be "ball out", and the fault is against the team on the opposite side of the net from where the ball landed.

**5.2** The RSA (M) team attacks the ball. It clearly *falls on the ground* just outside the boundary line. The line jumps and moves due to the ball's impact near it. Both of the RSA players insist to the referees that the line moved, so the ball must be called as in. How should the referee reply to the RSA players?

The referee should respond to the players that the ball must contact the line to be called "in".

Additionally the 1<sup>st</sup> referee may ask for the Line judge to repeat *his/ her flag signal* and / or for a Ball Mark Protocol to be enacted.

Referees should be aware that the ball may land out, but have struck the line, which is in a raised position, causing it to move.

The line moving although it was not contacted is very common due to the nature of the court surface and lines. The referee should be able to give the players a precise and correct definition of "ball in" clarifying any misinterpretation.

**5.3** The AUT (M) team attacks the ball. It lands near the line, in front of the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee. Quickly the line judge signals out, while the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee indicates in. The players of both teams approach the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee gesturing in and out respectively. How should each of the referees deal with this circumstance?

The 1<sup>st</sup> referee must:

- (1) Decide whose decision to accept, based on what **he/ she has seen him/herself**.
- (2) He / she should quickly whistle and indicate to both teams to go back to their positions away from the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee
- (3) If both officials were in a good position to signal, the 1<sup>st</sup> referee may make a call **if 100%** sure of **his/ her** decision or decide that a Ball Mark Protocol should be initiated (to check the ball mark).
- (4) The 1<sup>st</sup> referee can then make a final decision based on the review of the ball mark together with the feedback by the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee (as the ball mark may be out but the ball had hit the line).

The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee should:

- (1) Initially indicate to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee, until the referee acknowledges this.
- (2) **Should** not discuss this decision with the players.
- (3) Convey all appropriate information to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee in a clear and concise manner.
- (4) Follow all other appropriate aspects of the Ball Mark Protocol
- (5) Once a final decision is made, by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee, the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee should repeat the appropriate hand signals and show no sign of disagreement with it.

Note: this ruling has been duly adapted to the current regulations concerning the Ball Mark Protocol.

**5.4** A player from GER (W) spikes the ball very close to the line. The Line judge signals out, but the referees both believe that the ball touched the line. How should both referees deal with this situation?

The following steps should be utilized:

- ( 1 ) Initially the 1<sup>st</sup> referee must consider directly if they want to overrule the line judge (signaling the ball as in).
- ( 2 ) The 1<sup>st</sup> referee may consider the quality and

performance of the line judge(s) in making this decision. It is not up to the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee to make this decision.

- ( 3 ) Collaboration immediately at the end of the rally is important in making this decision. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee should also try actively **to stop the** players from coming under the net.

If the 1<sup>st</sup> referee decides to utilize a Ball Mark Protocol then:

- ( 4 ) The 1<sup>st</sup> referee should quickly proceed to the place of the ball mark.

- ( 5 ) He/she should request the line judge(s) **to assist and should not allow any influence or interference** from the players of either team.

- ( 6 ) The 1<sup>st</sup> referee should immediately upon verification of the facts and on the way back to the stand convey to the appropriate team(s) the details of the situation.

- ( 7 ) In case the initial review of the ball mark **is** questioned by one of the teams, the 1<sup>st</sup> referee should go quickly back to the mark before he/she returns to the stand, and with the assistance of the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee make a final review of the mark.

- ( 8 ) The 1<sup>st</sup> referee should then go straight to the stand and signal the final decision on ball in or out

The checking of the ball mark is an important technique that can be used to check information in making a decision to calm the players down in reaction to this situation and to give the 1<sup>st</sup> referee the opportunity to make the final decision.

Note: this ruling has been duly adapted to the current regulations concerning the Ball Mark Protocol.

**5.5** In a men's match between ESP and BRA at the Swatch-FIVB Grand Slam in Stavanger, with the score at In order to correctly implement the spirit of the rule the Referees should consider the following:

4-7 in the 1<sup>st</sup> set, player n° 1 from Spain hit, with a shot, the opponent court on the line.

While the line judge signalled the ball in, the BRA team complained, that at a prior exchange during the same rally, they had displaced the line out when digging the ball, claiming that the referee should reposition the line before making the call.

The 1<sup>st</sup> referee decided to reposition the line and then judged the ball as “out” based on the ball mark. The line had been moved out about 10cm.

**Is this a correct action by the 1<sup>st</sup> Referee?**

- a) If during the rally a line has moved substantially, this must be replaced and then a decision is made;
- b) Small movement of the lines during a rally shall not result in the replacement of the line and a decision would be made with the line in its position at the end of the rally;
- c) Yet, if a line is moved during the very final stages of the rally (including from the attack action until the ball lands), then the line should be replaced to its normal position and a decision made regardless of how much the line moved;
- d) The same, as above (c), would apply anytime a player deliberately moved a line during play. In this case, the concerned player should in addition be sanctioned according to the misconduct sanction scale;
- e) A line that is “permanently displaced” (line is either broken or an anchor point is detached) during play will result in an immediate stoppage of play and a replay authorized.

**5.6** In a match between USA and ITA at the 2006 Swatch-FIVB World Tour Open in Acapulco, with the score at 17-17 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> set, player n°1 from the USA, while retrieving the ball near his side line, displaced the line about 2cm making his court wider in this area.

The rally continued and the last action of the opponent team sent the ball directly to this spot and the ball slightly contacted the line. The USA player claimed that the ball **was** “out” and that the referee should reposition the line before making the call.

The 1<sup>st</sup> referee called the ball “in”.

**5.7** A NZL (M) player serves a sky ball. The ball passes legally over the net through the crossing space but then due to the very strong head winds, passes back under the

The decision of the 1<sup>st</sup> Referee was correct.

Small movement of the lines during a rally shall not result in the replacement of the line and a decision will be made with the line in the position as at the end of the rally.

Yet, if a line is moved during the very final stages of the rally (including from the attack action until the ball lands), then the line should be replaced to its normal position and a decision made regardless of how much the line moved.

This is a very unusual circumstance. The defending NOR team did however have the opportunity to play the ball while it was in the space above its playing court, the ball

net (from the NOR side), without contacting either the net or the receiving NOR players. Is this a point for NZL or a side out to NOR?

having legally travelled through the crossing space. Therefore the point should be awarded to NZL. This situation is similar to a player legally blocking the ball over the net (i.e.: on the opponents side), then the ball passes under the net crossing completely the lower space. The defending team would again be penalised as they had a potential play on the ball while the ball was in the space above their playing court.

**5.8** A POR (W) player serves. The CZE receiver passes the ball, over the antenna, back to the opposing court and play continues with POR playing the ball. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee notices that the ball does not pass completely inside the crossing space but does not blow his whistle, allowing play to continue. Is this correct by the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee?

No. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee has within their authority the right to whistle and signal this fault. They should do so at the time it contacts the POR player as at this time play cannot continue legally. 2<sup>nd</sup> referees should ensure that they are in a good position to judge this fault while not obstructing the possible play of the CZE team.

Active and competent line judges play an important role on this kind of play.

### PLAYING FAULTS

**5.9** In a match SUI vs. NED (W), the ball is played legally by both teams above the net, in a joust and then lands outside the court of NED. Who now has the serve?

The team who now has the serve is the team whose court the ball has landed outside (i.e.: NED will now serve), SUI is ruled to have hit the ball out.

It is for this reason that a ball that is played by both teams in a joust and then hits the antenna would be called as a replay i.e.: both teams hit the ball out.

A 2<sup>nd</sup> referee should indicate very quickly in these two circumstances which team now has the serve to assist in the 1<sup>st</sup> referees judgement (and if necessary the player at fault).

### PLAYING THE BALL

**5.10** In a World Tour match PUR vs. BUL (M), the ball is attacked by PUR and slightly touches the block of BUL. The BUL team then uses 3 more contacts to return the ball over the net. The rally continues with BUL winning a point. Immediately at the end of the rally the PUR team states to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee that they believe there were 4 contacts. The

The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee has initially shown poor technique on 2 occasions:

- (1) At the time of the block touch they should signal touch.
- (2) At the 4<sup>th</sup> contact they should also signal.

2<sup>nd</sup> referee upon request of the 1<sup>st</sup> referee confirms that there were 4 contacts and the referee then awards the serve to PUR. Was this good officiating technique by both officials?

These signals should be discrete and clearly visible to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee. They should try as much as possible not to convey these signals to the players, they are between the referees. Immediately at the end of the rally they should again signal to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee.

The 1<sup>st</sup> referee should, where the possibility of a slight block touch exists, check whether their 2<sup>nd</sup> referee is signaling or not.

They have shown good technique to change their decision with the new information received at the end of the rally from the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee.

**5.11** The ESP (M) team serves the ball. The receiving player of ITA plays the ball overhand, (hard driven ball defence) and carries it. Play continues. At the end of the rally the ESP team complains to the referee that this technique is not legal when receiving service. The referee replies that he considered the serve a hard driven ball. Who is correct?

The player is correct. The service is a specific exception to the rules that define a hard driven ball. It is illegal to receive a served ball in this way. If the player contacts the ball overhand with fingers, (i.e.: setting the ball) this contact must be clean. Additionally the player may not carry or hold a ball that has been served.

**5.12** The player of SUI (M) sets the ball to his partner using a technique that involves a quick but mistimed contact with the fingers (double contact). In considering this setting technique what factors should the referee look at?

The referee should consider:

- (1) The timing of the hands in the contact (i.e.: did the hands contact the ball simultaneously or separately?)
- (2) How much of a technical error (i.e.: mistiming of the hands) has occurred with this set?
- (3) Is the set an attack hit? In this case it is not applicable as they were setting their partner
- (4) Was the contact quick or prolonged?
- (5) Is this fault consistent with calls of a similar nature and at the appropriate level?

The referee should not consider:

- (1) The players position prior, during or after the set. A player can potentially complete a legal set from any position.
- (2) The sound of the ball contact
- (3) The spin or rotation of the ball after contact

They should focus specifically on the technical correctness (contact must be clean) and duration of the player's ball

contact.

**5.13** The player of CAN (M) receives the ball as a first contact from an attack by a POR player. What factors should the referee consider in judging this contact?

The referee should consider **his/ her** judgment in 2 stages. Initially he / she should decide if the ball is a hard driven attack or a soft attack. Factors in judging this include:

- (1) Does the player have time to change his technique?
- (2) The time and distance between the attack and the defensive action
- (3) Did the speed of the ball change due to a block or hitting the net?
- (4) Is the action offensive or defensive in nature?

If the attack hit is not considered hard driven (i.e.: soft attack) the referee must consider the following:

- (1) The contact must be clean and short in duration (if the contact involves finger action).

The contact must be one action **and the ball must not be carried** (if the contact does not involve finger action). Similar criteria can be utilized if the first contact is after a block.

**5.14** A player from ARG (M) spikes the ball towards the opponent's court with great speed. It slightly touches the block of the CUB player and does not alter its speed or direction substantially. The other CUB player defends the ball by carrying it slightly with open hands (hard driven defence). Should the referee in this case allow this defensive action?

Yes. Although this contact is the second contact of the CUB team, it is legal to play the ball in this way. The referee must be sure that the ball still satisfies the criteria of a hard driven ball especially regarding the time the defensive player has to change their technique of playing the ball. If the block touch significantly changed the speed of the ball (effectively making it not a hard driven ball), the contact would be penalised as a 'held' ball.

**5.15** The BRA (M) player jumps and spikes the ball with great speed and force. Its trajectory then takes the ball into contact with the top of the net which slows the **speed of the ball quickly**. The player of GER in defending plays it with open hands, slightly carrying it (hard driven ball defence). Should the referee allow this defensive action?

No. This situation is different from 5.12 above in that the ball has substantially changed its speed and therefore the ball is now not hard driven. The referee must strictly check the criteria for hard driven and soft attack many times during a match, fully understanding the consequences of this in establishing referees expectations as to how the defensive player will play the ball.

**5.16** During the match ENG vs. INA (W) there is very little blocking due to the strong wind and poor ball control. In many rallies, the women of both teams attack the ball from a standing position to each other. Some of these attacks are defended in a slightly held (hard driven ball defence) manner. What criteria should the referee look at in judging this contact?

The referee must particularly focus on the time the player had to change her technique in playing the ball. Did she have enough time to change her technique from being defensive to being offensive? In this way it is a matter for the referee to consider time and distance. It is not relevant if the player hit the ball as hard as she could or used unusual techniques. If the referee considers that the player had time to change her technique he should penalize any contacts where the ball is carried (such as hard driven ball defence).

**5.17** The player of USA (M) sets the ball to his partner using technique that involves a long and protracted contact time (carry) with the hands. In considering this setting technique what factors should the 1<sup>st</sup> referee look at?

The referee should consider:

- (1) The length of time between the player's first contact with the ball and **the** release (final contact) of the ball. Refer to Guidelines Playing the Ball 13.6
- (2) Is the set an attack hit? In this case it is not applicable as he was setting to his partner
- (3) How **clean was** the contact. Were the hands / fingers simultaneous in contacting the ball or slightly separate in their actions?

The referee should not consider as definitely indicating a fault:

- (1) The player's position prior **to**, during or after the set. A player can potentially complete a legal set from any position.
- (2) The sound of the ball contact.
- (3) The spin or rotation of the ball after contact.

Referees should focus specifically on **how clean was the player's contact with the ball and its duration** (time of contact between first and last contact points). It is also important that referees are consistent in their expectations of standard between the ball being carried and double contacted.

Referees must be aware that there are many techniques by which players may gain more control of the ball when

**5.18** During a men's match JPN vs. NED the ball is attacked very strongly by the NED attacking player. The defending JPN player reacts in defending the hard driven ball by utilizing a defensive technique with both wrists inverted (i.e.: fingers pointing downwards to the ground on both hands), and carries the ball momentarily. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee whistles and calls the JPN player for a carried ball. Is this decision correct given that the ball was hard driven and the player's action purely defensive in nature?

setting by prolonging the contact (carrying).

Yes, the decision of the referee is correct.

While much of the criteria for a hard driven ball have been met, (speed, player's action etc) the rules specifically state that this situation is illegal.

Because this technique involves both wrists being inverted (thus fingers pointing downwards to the ground) the referee can potentially consider this a carried ball.

Referees should act with conservatism in calling this fault only penalizing when the contact was not momentary and the wrists of both hands pointed downwards.

**5.19** During the match between CAN and USA (M) there is a joust at the net by a player of each team. However, near the end of this simultaneous contact (joust) at the net the player of USA clearly redirects (changes the direction) of the ball in another direction from that of the original actions by both participating players. This action of redirecting the ball is still, however, while the ball is **being contacted by** both players. Is a redirection of the ball legal while the ball is being simultaneously contacted within a joust?

Yes, it is legal within a joust to redirect (change the direction) of the ball.

However a referee should be very clear within their observations as to:

Was the joust action simultaneous? i.e.: both contacting the ball. Was the timing of the release from the joust simultaneous? i.e.: did one player then contact the ball after the joust was completed? Was the timing of the start of the joust simultaneous? i.e.: possibly one player carried the ball into the joust (or tip action etc)

The nature of a joust as defined by the rules of the game is that it allows both players to carry the ball with one or two hands above the net (without touching the net).

It makes no ruling on the trajectory of the ball subsequent to the joust or the actions of the players within a simultaneous holding action.

### BALL AT THE NET

**5.20** Near the end of a match involving the women's teams of USA and BUL, the USA player serves the ball. Its trajectory takes it over the antennae near the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee and the receiving BUL player then plays it. Play continues

This is a situation where the 2nd referee must blow his / her whistle as play cannot legally continue (as the ball must pass completely **between** the **antennae** after a serve) and it lies with the jurisdiction of the 2nd referee.

but the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee **neither** blows **his** whistle nor indicates to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee **his** observations. What should the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee have done in this situation?

With many complex situations potentially occurring when the ball passes completely outside, over or completely inside the antennae the 2nd referee must not in many circumstances blow his / her whistle but communicate via appropriate hand signals the exact circumstances to the 1st referee.

Active and competent line judges play an important role in such plays.

**5.21** The ball is set by an AUS (M) player towards his partner who prepares to attack. Simultaneously with the spike of the AUS player the POR player with one hand blocks the ball. Is this a legal block by POR?

For the block to be considered legal, any part of the ball must be on the defending POR team's side of the net. If the ball is completely on the attacking (AUS) side it is illegal for the blocker to contact before or simultaneously with the attack hit. The attacking (AUS) player must be allowed to hit the ball first.

### PLAYER AT THE NET

**5.22** The player of AUS (W), having blocked the ball, lands slightly off balance near the net. In this action she touches the net with her hair. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee sees this net touch but does not whistle. Is this correct by the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee?

This is good refereeing technique by the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee. Incidental contact of the hair is never a fault. Also, net contacts where the wind pushes the net onto the player should not be penalised.

**5.23** During the match BUL vs. EST (M), the BUL player attacks the ball over the EST player's block. In this action the BUL player, upon landing, passes under the net and contacts the EST player causing him to touch the net while in the final stage of the block action. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee whistles immediately for this contact and signals interference. Is this correct?

This is initially correct action by the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee as a fault has occurred which stops play.

However the 1<sup>st</sup> referee must now consider this possible fault in context with the rules of interference, particularly considering whether the EST player had a potential play on the ball.

The 1<sup>st</sup> referee may therefore rule interference or a tie ball (replay).

**5.24** In a World Tour match the ball is served strongly by the AUS (M) player forcing the receiving NZL player into a poor reception, which sends the ball near the net. The other NZL player makes a spectacular diving save near the net but in this action crosses under the net and is lying in

Yes, although no contact has occurred. It is a fault if the player through contact or the threat of contact prevents a player from making a play on the ball, when they in the referee's judgment would have been able to play this subsequent shot. The blocking player has been prevented

the AUS court. The AUS blocking player sees that the ball is coming over the net prepares to block but stops before jumping seeing that if he jumps he will contact the NZL player. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee whistles for interference although no physical contact has taken place. Is this a correct interpretation?

by the NZL player's position from playing the ball while having no potential play on the ball themselves.

**5.25** During the match NED vs. ESP (W), the NED player attacks the ball over the ESP player's block. In this action the NED player, upon landing, passes under the net and contacts the ESP player slightly. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee whistles immediately for this contact and signals interference. Meanwhile the NED players request to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee to replay the point as the ESP team had no play on the ball and the contact was incidental. What should the 1<sup>st</sup> referee do?

After considering all of the relevant facts the 1<sup>st</sup> referee should replay the point if it is clear there was no interference. He / she may need to verify this with the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee. Physical contact does not mean that interference has definitely occurred. Interference is not determined by whether there is contact (slight or major) but by the player having no or a reduced ability to play the ball (this may also apply to **teams'** subsequent or later contacts). The implication of this rule is that contact does not necessarily mean a fault. It depends on the ability of the player(s) to play the ball. The referees must examine each case looking at the players positions, where the ball landed, distances and the possibility (potential) that the player(s) would have subsequently **been able to play** the ball if not interfered with.

**5.26** NOR was playing a World Tour match against POR (M). The ball is dug by NOR and it goes past the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee and remains legally in play as it passes outside the antenna. The other NOR **player having** just attempted to block near this position sees that he can retrieve the ball legally by going under the net and returning the ball outside the same antennae. The POR player who has just spiked moves his position deliberately to put himself between the ball and the NOR player. Is this a fault?

Yes. This is a form of interference although **a** physical contact has **not** occurred. It is illegal for a player, to substantially alter **his/ her** position in order to prevent **the** opponents from making a play on the ball. However, the referee must consider that the player had a potential play on the ball (i.e.: they could get to it). Additionally, the referee must check that the player who interferes (POR in this case), has no potential play on the ball him / herself. There must be a clear interference, not merely moving slightly but significantly and deliberately altering the player's position to prevent a play on the ball.

**5.27** During an exciting rally the AUT (M) player makes a successful block. However in this action he falls to the ground and lies partly under the net. The blocked ball hits the top of the net and falls down on the BRA side of the net striking the AUT player on the body before it contacts the surface. The BRA player's request for interference although they had no potential play on the ball. How should

The referee must, if they believe the ball contacted the AUT player before contacting the playing court, penalize AUT for penetration into the opponents' court. Play has not finished until the ball contacts the court so the fault is prior to this circumstance. It is not relevant if the BRA players could potentially play the ball.

the referee respond?

**5.28** During a match between two USA (M) teams the following difficult situation occurs with the USA Blue team serving for the match. During the rally the ball is attacked with great force by the USA (Blue#1) player. The defending USA (Red#2) player defends the hard driven ball but it passes back over the net completely between the antennae and close to the USA (Blue) team's sideline near the 1<sup>st</sup> referee. The USA (Red#1) player believing that he may still have an opportunity to play the ball crosses under the net and moves in a path directly to play the ball. Immediately upon seeing the USA (Red#1) player crossing under the net the USA (Blue#2) player moves deliberately in a direction so as to create an obstruction upon the USA (Red#1) player. The two players collide near the sideline. In the meantime the ball has fallen 1 metre outside the sideline on the USA blue team's side of the court. Seeing the deliberate obstruction by the USA (Blue#2) player the 1<sup>st</sup> referee awards the service to the receiving USA (Red) team. Is the decision of the 1st referee correct?

**5.29** In a men's match between USA and SUI one of the USA players close to the 1<sup>st</sup> Referee crossed under the net to the opponent's court whilst trying to recover a ball that had passed the vertical plane of the net through the crossing space. The SUI player No 1 whilst playing the ball in his defensive action was contacted by the USA player slightly reacting to the situation. The referees made no decision and let the play continue and the SUI player after receiving the ball back from his partner hit it inside the opponents' court.

The ball must contact the AUT player in the space above the BRA teams' playing court for this to be penalised.

This case is the same as when a player, blocks the ball onto their own feet, which have been **projected** forward under the net, in the action of blocking.

No, the overriding consideration must be that the USA Red team does not have a legal play on the ball because the ball passed completely between the antennae.

Interference is based on a player intentionally preventing through contact or threat of contact a player making a play on the ball. Additionally the players action in potentially playing the ball must be legal in nature (i.e.: the actions prior to this potential play do not make a legal play impossible (e.g.: 3 previous contacts, ball passing between the antennae etc)). The Red player crossing under the net in this case, cannot legally play the ball.

The action of the Blue #2 player would have been considered a fault if play were legally possible to continue as **he** deliberately altered **his** position to create an interference and **was** not clearly attempting to play or potentially play the ball. They cannot be sanctioned under the misconduct scale.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee was excused by the fact that the action was close to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee and it was difficult to see the slight contact by the USA player and/or the path of the ball whilst crossing the net. The 1<sup>st</sup> Referee chose not to call immediately to better analyze what would happen during the play and if the SUI player was able to successfully hit the ball to the opponents' court then no call should be made.

Both referees have responsibilities in this case. Although interference under the net is primarily the 2<sup>nd</sup> Referee's responsibility, the 1<sup>st</sup> Referee having clearly the best perspective on all the action should as soon as acknowledging no call was made by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Referee, have immediately called for interference by the USA player.

**5.30** In a World Tour match the ball is received by JPN (M), and travels into the net. The player of INA (M), seeing the ball in the net, deliberately moves his hand close to the net so that the ball will push the net into contact with his hand and then fall to the playing court with the JPN team having no potential play on the ball. The referees do not penalize this fault, giving the service to INA. Is this correct?

**5.31** During a match TUR vs. GER (M), there is a very strong wind. The player of TUR successfully blocks the ball, but is penalised for touching the net by the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee. Both TUR players request the referee replay the point (tie ball); claiming the net was pushed onto the player by the wind. What should the 1st referee do?

**5.32** In a match between GER and SUI, in the 3<sup>rd</sup> set with the score at 13-13 the ball hit the top of the net whilst the GER No 2 player was blocking. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Referee blew his whistle and indicated a net contact by the player. The ball went out of the court on the GER side but at the moment the whistle was blown by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Referee the ball was still in play. The GER team protested that the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee had mistakenly called a net touch when in fact the net had touched the player due to the ball hitting the net. The 1<sup>st</sup> Referee, after confirming with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Referee that he was not 100% sure if the player had touched the net or the net had touched the player, called a replay. The SUI team did not accept this decision and requested a Protest Protocol. The Referee Delegate came to the court and collected the

In this scenario there was always interference involved. Either by the USA player if the ball crossed inside the crossing space, or by the SUI player if the ball crossed outside the crossing space ( including over the antenna)

The fact that the 1<sup>st</sup> Referee allowed the play to go on could have created a very complex situation i.e. **in case the SUI player would have hit the ball outside the opponents' court, etc.**

No. This is a fault and is a form of interference. It is penalised as a net touch, as the player is considered to have touched the net, not the net touching the player. The referee must clearly see that the player has deliberately altered **his** position in order to initiate this contact through the net. A player would generally not be penalised if he was in a pre existing position or **had** a potential play on the ball.

The 1st referee may confirm with the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee regarding the details of the net touch. Referees must be careful that the net may have been pushed into a C shape by the wind. Referees should be conservative in their calling of net touches under strong wind conditions taking into account that the net often causes the fault, not the player (i.e.: the wind pushes the net onto the player).

The 1<sup>st</sup> Referee who had the initial impression that the net was driven into the player's arms by the ball contact decided correctly to call a replay after confirming that:

- a) the 2<sup>nd</sup> Referee was not 100% sure if the GER player contacted the net or was contacted by the net whilst being hit by the ball;
- b) the 2<sup>nd</sup> Referee whistled with the ball still in play.

Rules concerned:

Rule 15.3.4

When the ball is driven into the net, which causes it to

evidence from the referees and players and after considering all the information decided to uphold the decision of the 1<sup>st</sup> Referee. This was based on the fact that it was not possible to confirm the net contact by the GER player and that as the ball was still in play a replay was the only solution. The PP was rejected at level 1. The SUI team then asked for a PP at Level 2. The Executive Committee came to the court, gathered the evidence from the referees, players and RD and confirmed that the decision of the referee and RD was correct and rejected the protest at level 2.

touch the opponent, no fault is committed.

Rule 11.2

The rally ends with the referee's whistle. However, if the whistle is due to a fault made in play, the ball is out of play from the moment the fault was committed. (Rule 12.2.2)

NOTE: Under new 2012 regulations, the 1<sup>st</sup> Referee must first determine whether the protest is legitimate by considering the criteria under which a protest can be lodged before initiating the Protest Protocol.

Further, the Protest Protocol at Level 2 would not be considered at the time of the protest. The details of the protest must be recorded on the **score sheet** and the Executive Committee will consider the Level 2 Protest after the conclusion of the match.

## SERVICE

**5.33** In a World Tour match the #1 player of CAN (W) goes back to serve at the end of the rally. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee checks the receiving INA team is ready then the #2 CAN player and then looks at the #1 CAN player. The referee notices that she is standing outside the extension of the sidelines awaiting authorization to serve. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee whistles and authorizes service. Is this allowed?

Yes. A player can be authorized to serve although they are outside the extension of the sidelines. The criteria the referee should apply before authorization for serve should be:

- (1) Are all other players and officials ready?
- (2) **Is the serving player in possession of the ball** and is **she** in a position ready to serve? i.e. is the serving player in her team's free zone and behind the service line or its imaginary extension?
- (3) Is this the correct player to serve according to the service order?

**5.34** The start of the 2<sup>nd</sup> set in a match between NOR and CAN (M) play commenced with the wrong team serving (CAN). The Scorer knew that the wrong team was about to commence serving, prior to the service being made but did

The correct outcome of this situation should be that the set should be recommenced. While the overriding fact is that the wrong team served it is also clear that:

not have the confidence to interject during the rally. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee also knew who should be serving, but due to being involved with repairing the net prior to the service, forgot the service order and interjected after the finish of the first rally (won by NOR). Both teams subsequently acknowledged that the wrong team had commenced serving. What should the 1<sup>st</sup> Referee now do?

- (1) The Scorer and 2<sup>nd</sup> Referee have not indicated and / or whistled for any fault (in this case it would include both before and during the rally)
- (2) If a wrong player serves and the rally is completed a team can only maintain any points **gained if** the correct team was serving (not as in this case the incorrect team)

The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee at the start of each set should ensure that **he/ she checks** that the correct player is about to serve, then **should** give the ball to that player and then indicate to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee that play can be commenced.

**5.35** During a match the AUS (M) player requests that the ITA player changes his position, **because** he is screening. The ITA player initially does not move to the side but merely bends downwards. The AUS player continues to request for a screen, asking the player to move to the side. What should the referee do in this circumstance?

Players are obliged if requested by their opponents to move if they are creating a screen.

This movement may be sideways or moving the body to a lower position (crouching or bending).

Where the request for a screen is made repeatedly the referee must consider the validity of this request.

They may speak to the serving team player (re-emphasizing the need to move) or the receiving players (stating that no screen now exists in the referee's view). Players sometimes use this right to request a screen to move to delay the match or intimidate the opponent.

**5.36** During the match USA vs. POR (M), the USA player goes back to the service zone to serve. Upon authorization to serve, he tosses the ball into the air, but it then slightly contacts an overhead television boom camera, which is positioned above the player. What should the referee do?

The referee should call a replay and re-authorize service. There has been external interference to the service.

Referees should check, before authorizing service that no potential obstruction such as this exists. It may act to distract the server or the receiving team.

The server could be requested to move **his** position slightly to solve the problem or to wait for a short time for the camera to move.

**5.37** The player of CZE (W) serves the ball. During this action her foot is placed very close to the line causing the

This situation can easily lead to a 1<sup>st</sup> referee error. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee is at a higher position (being on the referee's stand)

sand to be moved thus moving the line. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee sees the line move and penalizes the CZE player for a foot fault. There is no signal from the line judges. Is this good refereeing technique?

and a long distance from the potential fault. The line may move due to sand pushing the line. Although no fault has been committed, this may look like a fault. Confidence should be shown in the line judge's ability to correctly call this fault. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee must act conservatively in calling the fault, only penalizing clear faults especially if signalled by the line judge.

**5.38** In the match ARG vs. ITA (M), the ITA player goes back to serve. At this time one of the receiving ARG players is standing in an upright position indicating to the ITA player at the net to change his position, as he is screening. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee authorizes service and the ITA player serves. The ball is then caught by the ARG player, who is then penalised. Both ARG players approach the 1<sup>st</sup> referee. What should the referee now do?

The 1<sup>st</sup> referee must consider the possibility that they have not correctly checked the receiving team's position (and therefore possible screen signalled). As it is the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee's responsibility to watch the receiving team he should be asked to report what (he) observed in this circumstance. If there has clearly been a signal for screen indicated by the receiving team prior to the service authorization and the net player has not responded, therefore creating a screen the referee should authorize a replay.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee may signal replay to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee to speed up this process. As a general rule the 1<sup>st</sup> referee at the end of a rally should focus on the receiving team's position until they are clearly in a position to receive service. Only then should the referee authorize service.

**5.39** The CHN (W) player goes back to serve the ball. After being authorized to serve by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee she drops the ball. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee penalizes this as a service fault. Is this correct?

No. The referee should in this case consider that the player has not released the ball (tossed), with the intention of initiating a service. She should be authorized to serve again. A referee must understand that players have many unique serving action techniques that may involve the ball actually leaving the players hands (e.g.: from one hand to another, spinning etc) before the final toss for initiating service. The referee must consider these in their true context **by** not penalize them. A referee needs to consider whether a player is deliberately delaying the game by continuously dropping the ball (thus should be penalised) or that the player has accidentally dropped the ball due to it being irregular (e.g. wet, low pressure etc) (therefore no penalty).

**5.40** The GER (M) player goes back to serve. After being authorized to serve by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee he takes a long time

The referee must consider the player's normal service routine. Has the player clearly seen the service

before serving the ball. After 5 seconds the 1<sup>st</sup> referee blows her whistle and signals service to the ITA team. What guidelines should a referee use in judging this circumstance?

**5.41** During the match between GRE and ESP (M) the player #1 of ESP, after having been authorized to serve drops the ball during in the action of preparing to toss the ball for service. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee observed that the ball was partly wet due to contact with the players wet top. After whistling and then signaling for the rally to be replayed the 1<sup>st</sup> referee also requested that a new ball be utilized for the new service attempt. Are the actions by the 1<sup>st</sup> Referee correct?

**5.42** During the match BRA vs. EST (M) the BRA player serves from outside the extension of the sidelines. The line judge signals this fault utilizing the correct signal but the 1<sup>st</sup> referee is unsure as to what signal to utilize.

**What is the official signal for this fault?**

**5.43** The USA (M) player goes to the service zone to serve. Upon authorization to serve, he serves a very high sky ball service. In the serving action it looks like the ball was still resting on the player's hand when it was struck by the

authorization (or heard the whistle) or is the player clearly intending to delay the match. The referee may indicate with a hand signal that the player should quickly serve. This situation should only be penalised if there is a clear deliberate delay or excessive time taken to serve, not merely a long service routine (Note: service should not exceed 12 seconds).

Yes, the actions of the 1<sup>st</sup> Referee are correct.

The referee has clearly considered the following in making this decision:

- (1) That there was no deliberate attempt to delay the game
- (2) That the action of dropping the ball was accidental and was not an intentional tactic to delay.
- (3) That the action of the player in wetting the ball was accidental
- (4) The spirit of the rules of the game
- (5) To ensure that normal playing conditions are maintained a new ball should be utilized. This may involve the wet ball being replaced.

Before re-authorizing service the 1<sup>st</sup> referee should check the position of the receiving team.

The correct signal would be to point to the object (in this case the line that the player has served outside).

There are a number of faults in the rulebook for which no specific signal is listed (serving outside sideline, foot fault at service, player outside court at service, ball hitting an object, assisted hit etc).

In these cases the referee(s) should indicate the nature of the fault by pointing at the appropriate object (player etc).

This is a very difficult call to make, so referees should act conservatively. The referee should only penalize the server if the ball is clearly held and he / she **has** made no attempt to release it. Players often release the ball fractionally

players other hand for service. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee whistles and indicates AUS to serve as the ball was not released at time of service. Is this a correct call?

**5.44** The BRA team is about to serve the ball with the score 19-20 in the first set against JPN. The serving player serves a jump service, which lands, inside the court of JPN for a point. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee indicates initially that BRA now has the service. However in this action the 1<sup>st</sup> referee then notices that the line judge located at the BRA teams side of the court is waving his flag and indicating foot fault by the BRA serving player (having done so since the fault). The 1<sup>st</sup> referee then confirms by use of a short conference the observations of the line judge and then signals service to JPN (thus ending the set). Is this a correct procedure by the 1<sup>st</sup> Referee

**5.45** During a match between ITA and BEL (M) the following actions took place in very rapid succession.

1. The receiving BEL team indicated via hand signals that they believed they were being screened
2. The 1st referee authorised service for ITA
3. The 2nd referee blew her whistle and indicated replay
4. The service was initiated by ITA

How should the 1st referee deal with this situation? Additionally is the 2nd referee obliged to blow her whistle in all situations even after the authorisation for service?

before contact by the other hand.

The sky ball serve is a unique and spectacular technique to beach volleyball that should be encouraged; only being penalised when no doubt exists as to whether the serve was legal.

The referee has followed a correct sequence of events to make a final decision by clarifying with the line judge the nature of their signal.

However at the time immediately after the service it is good technique for the 1<sup>st</sup> referee to check momentarily for any possible signal from the respective line judges. Upon receiving a signal for fault from the line judge the 1<sup>st</sup> referee may choose to either (1) whistle and stop play or (2) continue play (if he / she decides not to accept the line judge's information, preferably in this case **acknowledging** to the line judge that they saw the signal).

The line judge should signal from the moment of the foot fault until it is acknowledged by a match official. Many difficult situations are compounded by a line judge initially signalling and then stopping signalling.

The 1st referee must, due to the fact that the 2nd referee has blown his / her whistle, stop play and authorise a new service.

A 1st referee must, of course, before authorising serve make sure that all players are ready to commence play.

The 2nd referee in completing his officiating areas of jurisdiction may blow his whistle in order to draw the 1st referee's attention to a particular situation, especially if it involves player safety or any other contingencies.

However it must be emphasised that a 2nd referee should as much as possible communicate by way of hand signals before, during and after a rally to the 1st referee. This will allow the 1st referee to fully assess the situation and make a decision accordingly. In some cases the 2nd referee whistling may restrict the options that the 1st referee has in making his / her final decision.

## ATTACK HIT

**5.46** CAN (W) was playing CHN. After the service, the ball is dug and set by the CAN players. The set is very close to the net and thus is close to the serving **team's** block. The CAN player reaches towards the ball with **with his open hand** and pushes the ball into the CHN block. Play continues and CAN win the rally. Immediately, at the end of the rally, the CHN team requests an attack hit fault. How should the referee respond?

The referee should call an attack hit fault on CAN if the action by the CAN team was prior to the block by CHN. However, if the block and the CAN team action were simultaneous, there would be no fault and play should continue, as long as part of the ball was on each team's side (i.e.: making each team's play legal).

**5.47** In a match GRE vs. SUI (W), the ball is passed close to the net. The defending GRE team is unsure if the ball is coming over and jumps late in their blocking action. Their blocking action is slightly back from the net and resembles a set. This action redirects the ball in a line not straight with the player's shoulders. Should the referee penalize this as a fault?

The player's action although unusual still satisfies the requirements of a block. The block should be:

- (1) Close to the net.
- (2) Attempting to stop the ball from crossing the net
- (3) With hands higher than the top of the net (but the ball may contact any part of the body).

The referee should look to see the intention of the shot is a block and not merely allowing the ball to pass well over the net and then setting it from a position off the ground (i.e.: jumping).

If the player's action is not regarded as being a block then the referee may need to **look at how clean was the contact** (carry or double contact) and the trajectory of the ball after the contact.

**5.48** The ball is received by the AUS (W) player and passed to a position near the net. Her partner approaches the ball and at the last minute intentionally sets the ball in a reverse direction over her shoulders into the opponent's court. Is this a legal attack hit?

Yes, provided that the ball travels in a trajectory perpendicular to the line of the player's shoulders, and that the player has established her **shoulder** position before the initial contact is made. The player has not 'set' the ball to her partner but instead deliberately 'set' the ball over the net (either in a forward or backward direction). Therefore the referee must focus on:

- (1) How clean was the contact,
- (2) The player's position at the time of initial contact with the ball and
- (3) The line of the ball's trajectory immediately after the player's contact finishes.

If these conditions are satisfied this is a legal attack hit.

**5.49** In a match UKR vs. BUL (M), the ball was set cleanly by the UKR player towards his partner. However, the ball was then blown over the net by the wind. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee blew his whistle and penalised UKR for an attack hit fault. Is this correct?

No. This is a common misinterpretation of the rules and is not a fault. If the intention of the UKR player is to set the ball to their partner, no fault exists. The wind causing the ball to cross over the net or the trajectory of the ball not being in line with the player's shoulders is irrelevant in deciding on this fault. If the intention of the player is clear play should be allowed to continue. In this case the referee should call a replay and authorize a new service as they have mistakenly blown his whistle (no fault has been committed).

**5.50** During a World Tour match the FRA (M) player serves a sky ball. The receiving BRA player sees that the trajectory of the service is very close to the net. At the last minute the player jumps and blocks the ball onto the net and then plays the ball a second time to his partner. The referee allows play to continue. Is this correct?

No. This is a fault. It is not legal to block a service. The first contact is not legal so the 1<sup>st</sup> referee should have whistled a fault as soon as the player blocked the ball.

## BLOCK

**5.51** ENG was playing USA (W) in a World Tour match. The ENG team spiked the ball, hitting the USA block. The ball returned quickly to the ENG court and was played by the other ENG player as a hard driven ball (i.e.: by momentary carry with hands). Is this defence legal against a ball that has been blocked?

Yes. This is legal. **The ball rebounding or being deflected off the block is considered as an attack hit** and in this case the ball may be carried or held momentarily with hands. It may also be double contacted with fingers. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee must carefully check that the defensive action satisfies the requirements of a hard driven ball defence (i.e.: that the action was defensive not offensive, etc).

**5.52** The RUS player in receiving service near the net passes the ball back over the net. The DEN blocking player, seeing the ball coming over to him prepares to spike the ball. The other RUS player now sees that he must block. He runs from a deep position and at the time of the spike, jumps straight upward, 1 metre from the net, in a blocking action. The ball hits the player's hands, rebounds onto the top of the net and the same RUS player hits the ball a second time. Is this a fault?

The referee must penalize, as a fault double contact if he believes the first contact of RUS did not satisfy the requirements of a block. The distance from the net is important, as a block must be completed close to the net. Although the block technically was slightly mistimed it was still close to the net. The players actions resemble a block (hands above net height and attempting to stop the ball) so the referee should allow play to continue.

**5.53** The ball is poorly passed by the ITA (M) player. The RUS blocker, seeing the ball slightly on his side of the net

While the block is a defensive action it does not follow the same criteria as a hard driven ball defence. The referee

aggressively blocks the ball, slightly holding it and redirecting the ball away from the defending ITA players. What criteria should the referee use to judge this blocking contact?

should not allow prolonged contact (i.e.: holding) of the block. The ball can be redirected by a block provided that it satisfies the definition of a block and the contact time is not prolonged.

# CHAPTER 6

## TIME OUTS AND DELAYS

### TIMEOUTS

**6.1** In a World Tour match the players of DEN (M) call a timeout but decide to remain on the playing court, not returning to their designated players' chairs. Is this allowed?

This is allowed. The players however must remain within the Playing Area (unless permission is given by the referees to leave) and must not interfere with any equipment (e.g. panels) or the work of any official (e.g.: Line judge or sand levellers).

During this time the players are allowed to use a ball or balls and are not limited to one side of the court. It is not required that both players go to the same place, if they choose they can go to quite different places.

They must, however, respect the privacy of the other team especially the players' designated chairs area.

**6.2** The players of MEX (W) call a timeout and proceed to their designated players' chairs. At the end of 45 seconds the 2nd referee whistles and indicates for the teams to return to the playing court. After another 15 seconds, (i.e.: 60 seconds total duration) the players have not moved from their chairs to return to the court. The 1st referee issues a delay warning to MEX. Is this a correct penalty?

The players have correctly received a delay warning. If after 15 seconds the players have not returned to the court then the delay is significant. Minor delays may receive a verbal warning. It is very important that the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee be very active at the end of the timeout encouraging both teams to return to the playing court.

**6.3** The NZL (M) team, at the end of the AUS team's timeout, requests a timeout. What procedure should the referees now follow?

The referees should accept this request for a time out, blowing the whistle and repeating the official hand signals. The timing of the 30 seconds should commence when both teams are back at their designated chairs (or as appropriate). They should not receive 45 seconds as the extra 15 seconds is allocated for teams to leave the playing court. The teams have already left the playing court. At the completion of the 30 seconds the referees should whistle, signal and verbally request the teams to return to the playing court. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee should at this time indicate to both teams that they have no timeouts remaining.

**Reference: Case 10.7**

## DELAYS TO THE GAME

**6.4** During a match MAL vs. IRI (M), the referee after a number of small verbal warnings and hand gestures for delaying the match sanctions the MAL team with a Delay Warning. Later in the set the MAL team again delays the match and the referee again speaks to the MAL team, sanctioning them with a second Delay Warning. Is this correct action by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee?

**Reference: Case 10.8**

**6.5** BEL (M) was playing TUR in a match, during which both teams frequently delay the game, being slow into position, wiping their glasses and cleaning sand from their bodies. As a result the time between rallies was often extended beyond 12 seconds. The referee does not verbally warn the players or issue any team with delay warnings. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee allows this behaviour to continue for the whole match. Is this good refereeing technique?

**6.6** The players of KOR (W) return to their positions after the completion of the rally to receive serve. After 10 seconds they request to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee for permission for one player to go to their designated chairs to wipe their

The 1<sup>st</sup> referee should not give 2 delay warnings to the MAL team. This sanction applies collectively to the MAL team, not the players individually (so a team cannot be warned twice in the same set for a delay).

Delay warnings are recorded on the score sheet so the scorer should immediately notify the 1<sup>st</sup> referee (via the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee) of this error.

This case illustrates well that the 1st referee, in both misconduct and delay sanctions, must very clearly (for all officials, spectators and players) indicate the team (in the case of delay) or player (in the case of misconduct) that has been sanctioned.

The next (second in this case) instance of this behaviour would be sanctioned with a delay penalty (not merely a warning).

This is poor officiating. The referee should maintain control of the pace of the match, not being controlled by the players. By extending the time between rallies beyond 12 seconds there has been a delay.

The referee must control the time between rallies, verbally warning where appropriate. Then when a team deliberately or repeatedly delays the match, issue a delay warning.

This serves as the team's last warning as the next occurrence will result in a delay penalty.

Referees should be consistent throughout the match and a Tournament in their application of the delay sanction scale.

The Supervisor may extend the time between rallies to 15 seconds due to special conditions, such as excessive heat.

The referee should in this case decline this request as the players are prolonging the time between rallies beyond 12 seconds. At the completion of the rally the KOR player should have left the court quickly to wipe her face. The

face due to sand being in their eyes. Should the 1<sup>st</sup> referee authorize this request?

referee should only authorize this request if there is (1) a substantial danger existing to the player and (2) the player has not intentionally created this delay.

**6.7** The player of SUI (M) requests to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee for permission to wipe his glasses immediately at the end of the rally. He, with the referee's permission, goes to the line judge and wipes his glasses. He then proceeds to wipe his head and arms with the small towel. The referee whistles and requests that the player return to the court while also verbally issuing the player a warning. Is this correct?

Yes, this is good refereeing. Initially the player has left the court within the 12 seconds between rallies and is legally allowed to use the line judge's small towels for cleaning their glasses. They do not need to request permission from the 1<sup>st</sup> referee permission to wipe their glasses. However these towels are not for cleaning player's bodies, they are only for glasses. The referee is correct in requesting the player to stop his action, verbally warning them and requesting them to resume the match. The towels used by ball retrievers to dry the balls are also not allowed to be used by players in this way. Players have personal towels for this purpose.

**Reference: Case 10.9**

**6.8** Prior to the match POR vs. USA (M) the POR team deliberately delayed the official protocol, not coming on to the playing court when requested. Consequently the start of the match was delayed by 2 minutes. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee began the match with a delay warning to the POR team. Was this a correct interpretation of the rules?

Yes, a team **which** delays the match prior to it starting may be penalised with a delay warning prior to the first service being authorized.

**Reference: Case 10.12**

## EXCEPTIONAL GAME INTERRUPTIONS

**6.9** During the match the USA (M) player is injured. The player confirms to the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee that he is injured and requires medical time-out. He does not wait for the medical staff but instead leaves the court, without either referee's permission. After 5 minutes the 1<sup>st</sup> referee (after consulting with the Supervisor), declares the team incomplete, as the player has been unable to be found by the referees or Supervisors. What should have happened in order to avoid this problem?

The referees must as soon as a player is injured and requests medical time-out ensure:

- (1) That the accredited medical staff and Supervisor(s) are requested to come to the court immediately. Note that as a precaution the accredited medical staff must be requested to come to the court in all cases of injury whether requested by the player or not.
- (2) That the player(s) remain within the free zone.
- (3) That if a referee allows an injured player to leave the free zone, a referee should initially accompany this player
- (4) That the scorer has correctly recorded all important

**Reference: Case 10.10**

information.

(5) That the other players are informed of all relevant information.

In this case the player's team has correctly been declared incomplete and the match finished.

**6.10** A player gets a minor cut on his arm (involving blood) after diving to retrieve a ball. The referees allow the player to quickly clean and bandage the cut without use of a timeout or using his/her Medical Injury timeout. Is this correct?

Yes. The referees must be very careful in their enforcement of regulations related to blood for the safety of all match participants.

If the injury is small, the referees can allow (without charging a delay, timeout or Medical Injury timeout to the team), sufficient time to fix the injury.

If the injury is major (and involves blood) it should be regarded as a Medical time-out and the referees should allow the player 5 minutes maximum from the time the accredited medical staff arrives at the court, or less if the medical staff determine that no more treatment will be effective.

The referees should ensure that any other person or equipment exposed to the blood is checked and given the opportunity to be cleaned / treated.

**Reference: Case 10.12**

**6.11** As the players are entering the court at the start of the match a player from SUI (M) requests a medical injury timeout as he is having trouble breathing due to asthma. Should the 1<sup>st</sup> referee authorise this request?

Yes. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee should authorise this request, although the teams have not commenced playing the match (first serve). A team can legally request a medical injury timeout and / or a timeout although no play has occurred. All referees must ensure that all medical time-out is available to players even before and after a match, not just during actual play.

**6.12** The player of ARG (M) requests a medical injury timeout and the referees follow the correct procedure requesting the Supervisor(s) and accredited medical staff come to the court. After some considerable time a first aid attendant comes to the court. The injured player does not accept this attendant as being medically capable of providing a service to the injured player. Some 20 minutes later a medical doctor comes to the court. Are the actions of the referees correct?

Yes, the actions of the referees are correct.

It is up to the Supervisor(s) to determine the suitability of the accredited medical staff in performing their function.

The referees must follow the Medical Injury Protocol recording all required information in the remarks section.

6.13 A player falls to the ground, at the end of a rally, complaining about an injured ankle. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee asks the player if he requires medical **time-out**. The player **replies "no"** and that he will be OK in a short time. After about 25 seconds the player resumes his position and the match is recommenced. Was this correct application of the rules by the referees?

The referees have acted correctly in allowing this player a short time to resume the match.

The delay in allowing the player to recover must be short.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee must, strictly supervise the player during this time.

They should also indicate to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee and scorer that they do not require medical attention and that no medical injury timeout is to be recorded on the score sheet.

Referees should note that it is always the player's final decision whether they are fit to resume the match.

The referees should, in all cases of injury, call the authorised medical personnel to the court regardless of whether a medical time-out is enacted or not.

**6.14** The World Tour match USA vs. ITA (M) is played late in the afternoon. With ITA leading in the first set 12-10 the USA player's request that the referee stops the match due to lack of light. After consideration of the request by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee and then the Supervisor, the match is stopped and started again the next day with the score 0:0. What criteria would a Supervisor use to decide if the match is to continue?

The Supervisors would consider the following:

- (1) For natural lighting the minimum light should be 1000 lux at 1 metre above the playing surface.
- (2) Whether normal playing conditions are possible for the players during the whole of the rest of the match.
- (3) Whether the players wish to stop the **match**. Both teams can agree to continue the match.
- (4) The availability of lights to possibly continue the match.
- (5) The next day's playing schedule.

If possible, this decision should be made before the match commences if there appears to be insufficient time available to complete the match.

- (3) The light must be measured in the middle of the court and be consistent in each part of the playing area including the free zone.
- (4) In most circumstances, the above criteria being met, the TS would authorize the match to start again the

**Reference: Case 10.13**

next day (score 0:0 as the break exceeds 4 hours).

**6.15** In a match between USA and RUS (M), with the USA team serving, the USA team is successful in blocking the attack of the RUS#1 player. However before the play is completed RUS#1 player falls to the ground yelling in pain and clutching his hand. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee immediately blows his whistle and indicates replay. The RUS#1 player upon seeing this immediately ceases yelling in pain and stands up and proclaims that the injury is now ok and that he is able to continue play. The USA players vigorously complain to the 1st referee that the RUS player has faked the injury, as his team was about to lose the rally (and thus a point). What should the 1<sup>st</sup> referee do in this circumstance?

The referee must allow the decision that finished the rally to stand.

Under the rules of the game a referee must whistle when he / she believes that a serious injury has occurred and / or if a player may be further injured if play continues.

This whistle (if it occurs during a rally) results in a replay. If the whistle occurs after the rally has been completed the result of the rally as completed stands.

The referee should not enter into a debate about the validity of the injury with any of the players.

**6.16** During a match of CHN (W) a player becomes seriously injured with a back injury. The officials follow the correct Medical Injury Protocol allowing the player to stay on the playing court and requesting appropriate medical staff to come to the court. The injured player of CHN, however, before the medical staff arrives, requests that the 2nd referee assist her in stretching her back to alleviate the pain. How should the 2nd referee respond to this request?

While it is the responsibility of officials to ensure safe conditions for the players this does not include providing personal medical time-out.

The referee's prime responsibility in situations such as this is to ensure access to medical staff is as quick as possible (by following the Medical Injury Protocol).

Referees must act with professionalism on and off the court at all times, showing themselves as a role model. In this case the official should not have treated the player personally but should have allowed personal medical staff to enter the playing court without delay.

**6.17** Near the completion of the 1<sup>st</sup> set the JPN (M) team requests to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee that accredited medical staff are available to treat a player who is injured between sets 1 and 2. Should the 1<sup>st</sup> referee accept this request?

Yes. This request is legal and should be initiated as soon as possible by both officials. A player has the right to request and then utilise medical attention in their designated seats for the whole duration of the time between sets (also during Technical Timeouts and Timeouts).

**6.18** In a Men's match AUS vs. BRA the ball is tossed for service and contacts an overhanging branch of a tree. The 1st referee immediately signals serve for the receiving BRA team. The AUS men protest the decision and the 1st referee institutes a Protest Protocol. After consideration of the relevant facts the Supervisor decides that the AUS

The Supervisor has considered all of the following factors in making this decision regarding the possibility of external interference:

- (1) Was the overhanging branch creating external interference?

team should replay the service. What factors would the Supervisor have considered in making this decision?

- (2) Was the reduced free space approved by the Supervisor(s) and communicated to the players?
- (3) Was the action of the player deliberate or accidental?
- (4) Did the ball contact the branch(s)?
- (5) Is the reduced free space now the same as was approved previously by the Supervisor?

This case has many complex factors for the Supervisor(s) to consider. It should be emphasised that generally for external interference to occur an object (e.g. tree) or official (e.g.: line judge) should either not be in their normal position and / or create through their actions the interference.

NOTE: Under new 2012 regulations, the 1st Referee must first determine whether the protest is legitimate by considering the criteria under which a protest can be lodged before initiating the Protest Protocol

### COURT SWITCHES AND INTERVALS

**6.19** During the women's World Tour final match BRA vs. USA (3<sup>rd</sup> set) the play continues until the score reaches 3-3. It is only at this time that the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee indicates to the teams to switch courts. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee does not alter the score and authorizes a side switch. Has the referee acted correctly?

Teams must change sides as soon as the error has been noticed. The referees have acted correctly in recording this court switch on the score sheet although it was in error.

**6.20** During the final match SUI vs. AUS (M) the 1<sup>st</sup> referee has many requests from the TV co-coordinator for a delay in the authorization for service due to TV replays being utilized. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee feels that the requests are overly influencing the pace of the match, are too numerous in number and excessively lengthy. What should the referee do in this circumstance?

It is important that the 1<sup>st</sup> referee at the most convenient moment communicates this information to the Supervisor(s).

While it is the responsibility of the match officials to work co-operatively with the TV co-ordinator and their staff, they also represent the FIVB (player's officials etc) and the spirit of the Rules of the Game.

The Supervisor should be informed of any circumstance when a referee(s) consider that the match conditions are

being compromised. It is also appropriate in this situation for the 1<sup>st</sup> referee to talk to the players outlining the situation.

Good management techniques are essential to ensure that the match is conducted with as little interruption to the pace of the match as is possible.

# CHAPTER 7

## MISCONDUCT

### MISCONDUCT

**7.1** At the end of a rally a player from FRA (M) kicks the ball deliberately out of the playing area after the referee calls his team for a ball-handling fault. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee gives a red card (misconduct penalty) for rude conduct. Is this correct?

**Reference: Case 10.14**

The referee is correct in sanctioning the player for rude conduct, as the offence is deliberate, substantial and showing disapproval with the referee's decision. Dealing with a player's misconduct the referee has 4 choices:

- (1) Verbal warning for minor misconduct (small warning not to repeat this action)
- (2) Misconduct warning for misconduct (Unsportsmanlike Conduct - next offence would be penalised with red card)
- (3) Misconduct Penalty for serious example of misconduct (Rude Conduct)
- (4) Disqualification / Expulsion (e.g. for aggression or offensive conduct towards another player or official)

The referee must closely look at the circumstances of the misconduct (deliberate, level, repetition, aggressive etc) and warn or sanction accordingly. Refer to RDM App10 – Misconduct sanction fee scale.

Note: this ruling has been duly adapted to the current regulations concerning the "Misconduct sanction fee scale".

**7.2** During the match NED vs. RUS (M), both the NED players commit a number of minor misconducts. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee verbally warns the players on a number of occasions and finally after misconduct by a NED player he sanctions that player with a misconduct warning. Additionally he warns both the NED players that any further misconduct will result in a misconduct penalty. Is this correct by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee?

**Reference: Case 10.15**

The referee is correct in his action during the match warning the NED players when they commit a minor misconduct. He is also correct in giving a misconduct warning. This misconduct warning may be given based on repetitions of a number of minor misconducts. However the referee is incorrect in giving the warning to both players. The referee must treat each case of misconduct individually and warn or sanction an individual player as appropriate.

**7.3** In a World Tour match NZL vs. ARG a NZL player receives a misconduct penalty for rude conduct. Later in the same set the same player is penalised for rude conduct. The referee again gives a misconduct penalty to the player. Is this the correct application of the sanction scale by the referee?

**Reference: Case 10.16**

**7.4** In a match with USA (M), in Set 1 a BRA player receives a number of verbal warnings for minor misconducts and then receives a misconduct warning. Later in this set, the same BRA player receives a misconduct penalty for another repetition of misconduct. In Set 2, the same BRA player commits another minor misconduct. What should the 1<sup>st</sup> referee now do?

**Reference: Case 10.17**

**7.5** During a World Tour Match, a USA (M) player pulled the net with such force that it broke a post holding the net. The match was subsequently restarted on another court with the same score after a 1-hour delay and no penalty to the offending USA player. Were the referee's and Supervisors decisions correct?

**Reference: Case 10.18**

**7.6** At the completion of the first set of a BRA vs. AUS (W)

The referee is incorrect in sanctioning the NZL player with a second misconduct penalty. While players may receive more than one misconduct penalty in an individual set, the player has committed rude conduct for a second time. The player should be expelled (only for that set).

The misconduct scale is not cumulative so each set's sanctioning is applied individually. The BRA player could receive in the new (2<sup>nd</sup>) set a verbal warning (or misconduct warning if appropriate).

The BRA player would not receive another misconduct Penalty at this time.

Initially the referee should have sanctioned the player with a misconduct penalty for rude conduct. The pulling on the net was intentional, aggressive and deliberate.

The decision by the Supervisor to use another court was correct if the match court was now unusable, as was the maintaining of the existing points.

If a different court is used the match must continue from this point.

However if the correct sanction would have been applied to the USA player one point would have been awarded to the opponent team.

Under the current regulations if the correct sanction would have been applied to the USA player, the player would in addition have been fined in due accordance to the "Misconduct sanction fee scale".

Note: this ruling has been duly adapted to the current regulations concerning the "Misconduct sanction fee scale".

Initially the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee must report this action to the 1<sup>st</sup>

match, the players are sitting in their respective designated chairs. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee hears one of the AUS players make a derogatory comment loudly about the 1<sup>st</sup> referee. What should the referees now do?

referee during the interval between sets.

The 1<sup>st</sup> referee should sanction or warn the player, as they believe appropriate. The referee must closely look at the circumstances and the level of the offence and warn or sanction accordingly. Refer to RDM App10 – Misconduct sanction fee scale.

Because the offence occurred between sets it must be applied at the start of the next set.

This also applies to misconduct before the match, which is applied before the first serve of the match.

Note: this ruling has been duly adapted to the current regulations concerning the “Misconduct sanction fee scale”.

**7.7** Between the second and third set of a match against NOR, the USA (M) player makes a derogatory remark about the officials. A misconduct penalty is given by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee to commence the third set. The USA team has the first service for the third set. What is the correct action by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee and scorer?

The 1<sup>st</sup> referee, after he / she has given the misconduct penalty to the USA, must show the other team to serve (NOR).

This counts as the first USA service attempt and should be recorded in the "I" box for service order. The NOR team now has the service (player II in the service order).

With each service resulting in a team winning a point, the NOR team now should have 1 point in the points row, which should be circled because it came from a sanction.

However he / she should record next to the appropriate player a Misconduct penalty with the score 0:0. They must also accurately and clearly identify the nature (type) of the offence in accordance to the “Misconduct sanction fee scale” (refer to RDM App10 – Misconduct sanction fee scale).

Note: this ruling has been duly adapted to the current regulations concerning the “Misconduct sanction fee scale”.

**7.8** With the score at 11:13 (Set 3) an AUS (M) player receives a misconduct penalty for rude conduct (score now 11:14). The player is upset with this decision and in anger

The referee is incorrect in giving a misconduct penalty to the player as this situation should have been sanctioned with a 2<sup>nd</sup> misconduct penalty for rude conduct (therefore

tears his playing uniform completely in half. Immediately the 1<sup>st</sup> referee penalizes the AUS player with a misconduct penalty, which finishes the match. Should the referee have penalised the player in this way or is this a delay of the game?

**Reference: Case 10.20**

**7.9** With the score at 13:14 the CAN (M) player spikes the ball which slightly touches the block and lands out. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee signals ball out ending the match. After approaching the 1<sup>st</sup> referee's stand and protesting, the CAN player becomes upset and pulls down the protective padding and court number from the referee's chair. Should the referee record this action on the score sheet although it occurred after the completion of the match?

**Reference: Case 10.21**

**7.10** A player from BRA (M) is requested by the receiving GER team to move due to them screening the server. He does so only slightly and the receiving player affected again requests for him to move. If the player does not appear to substantially respond to this request would the referee penalize the player under the misconduct or delay sanction scale?

leading to expulsion, end of set, end of match) although this situation might also lead to a delay in the match. As the team no longer has a set of matching uniforms they should be required to wear a replacement set if available. The Supervisor should make a final decision about what uniform the players must now wear. The action of replacing the uniforms must be done quickly as not to substantially delay the match.

Yes. The referee should record such actions on the back (remarks section) of the score sheet.

Referees must record any action that may result in the sanctioning of a player by the TS (refer to RDM App10 – Misconduct sanction fee scale), whether this action occurs before, during or after a match.

This recording of the player's actions is a separate process from that of a Protest Protocol which originates from a players Protest.

The recording of this information must be written accurately while clearly identifying the nature (type) of the offence in accordance to the "Misconduct sanction fee scale" description, and can be done after the match result has been completed if necessary, but before the concerned team captain signs the post-match signature box.

Note: this ruling has been duly adapted to the current regulations concerning the "Misconduct sanction fee scale".

This would be regarded as misconduct and be warned or sanctioned as appropriate. If the player had not previously received a verbal warning one should now be given.

Correspondingly, if the BRA player had previously in the set received a verbal warning, the player should now receive a misconduct warning.

The player is being sanctioned for repeatedly failing to respond to the requests of the referee and the player

signalling for a screen.

A player may only be penalised for a screen if the ball is served and then passes over a player who has deliberately substantially altered their position so as to create a screen

**7.11** During the match BRA vs. USA (W) the coach of the BRA team made many derogatory comments about the referees and waved **his** hands continuously in a manner suggesting disgust with the referees' decisions which **could** be clearly heard and seen by the referees and players. What should the referees do in this situation?

The referee cannot penalize the coach directly for misconduct, as he is not a participant in the match. They are in this way like a spectator. Additionally the players cannot be penalised for any misconduct by the coach. The referees should immediately call for the Technical Supervisor to come to the court. Coaching is not legal in Beach Volleyball and can be regarded as a form of external interference.

**7.12** In a match between CAN and NOR, during the 3<sup>rd</sup> set when the score was 13-11 to CAN a Norway player hit a very strong spike which landed very close to the line. A ball mark protocol was initiated by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee, the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee and the line judge went to the ball mark and after reviewing it reported the finding to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee. After receiving this information the 1<sup>st</sup> referee made the decision that the ball was "OUT". The Norway team then called a Time Out. The players area for NOR was on the other side of the playing area and right in front of the concerned ball mark. After going to his chair one of the Norway players got a camera out of his bag and took a picture of the ball mark. A few minutes after the match both NOR players looked for the Referee Delegate claiming that the picture was clear evidence that the mark showed the ball "IN" instead of "OUT". At the time of the incident no decision was made by the referees, play continued until the end of the match.

The player concerned should have been found in violation of Rules 6.1.2 and 6.1.3 and therefore sanctioned for Rude Conduct in accordance with Rule 23.1.2.

All FIVB officials should refuse to consult any pictures of this type as they are not the official footage and there is no proof that they relate to the specific incident during that match.

Note: under the current regulations the eventual checking of the ball mark would be enforced by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee and not the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee as referred at the actual case above. This fact does not in any case impacts in the principle ruled by this case.

# CHAPTER 8

## REFEREEING CORPS AND PROCEDURES

### REFEREEING CORPS AND PROCEDURES

**8.1** In a match between GER and CAN (M) the 1<sup>st</sup> referee makes many decisions without collaborating with his other officials. With the score at 21-20 in the 1<sup>st</sup> set, the ball is spiked clearly touching the block. This is signaled by 2 line judges, but the 1<sup>st</sup> referee immediately, without looking at the line judges signals the end of the set. The players of CAN request the 1<sup>st</sup> referee to check with his line judges. The referee refuses and a Protest is correctly requested by the CAN team. Is this protest legal? Has the referee used good officiating techniques?

This protest although correctly requested by the CAN team was not accepted by the Supervisor, as it involved no misinterpretation of the rules etc (the Protest Protocol was rejected). Rule 25.2.1 states that "the 1<sup>st</sup> referee's decisions are final". The referee has called the ball out.

However a serious problem existed in the 1<sup>st</sup> referees' officiating techniques. Collaboration is very important in officiating. A referee cannot by himself or herself, make every decision in a match 100% correctly.

Communication is required to increase the chances of a correct decision. A 1<sup>st</sup> referee should quickly, each time after the play has finished, check with all other officials who potentially might convey / signal information necessary to complete an accurate decision.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee may in some cases have to initiate the communication process in order to convey information to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee.

NOTE: Under new 2012 regulations, the 1<sup>st</sup> Referee must first determine whether the protest is legitimate by considering the criteria under which a protest can be lodged before initiating the Protest Protocol

### FIRST REFEREE

**8.2** During the match NOR vs. BRA (M) both players of NOR cross under the net to dispute a line judges call. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee takes no action in penalizing this fault, as he has no set of Red and Yellow cards with him or on the post near the 1<sup>st</sup> referee. Is this correct by the referee?

No. Two things are incorrect in the referee's actions. Any player who passes under the net or its imaginary extension to review a ball mark should as a minimum receive a Misconduct Penalty from the referee (for each of the players who crossed under the net in this case). The referee is also in error for not carrying with him a set of

**8.3** In a World Tour match the 1<sup>st</sup> referee finds that his whistle is no longer functioning correctly, as it is broken. The match is delayed until he can retrieve a new one from his bag in the referee's room. How should the referee have prevented this problem?

personal cards and for not checking in the official warm up period that there was a set attached to the post.

Referees should at all times carry with them a set of personal equipment including cards, a coin and whistles. A referee cannot rely on equipment always being available or working every time. They should prepare for this possibility.

## SECOND REFEREE

**8.4** In a match between POR and ARG (M) the POR (M) player soft attacks the ball. It lands on the sand just before the defending ARG player can successfully retrieve it. Play continued as the 1<sup>st</sup> referee was unsure if the ball contacted the sand or not as he was unsighted by the players. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee made no signal to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee even though he knows that it contacted the sand. At the end of the rally he tells the 1<sup>st</sup> referee that the ball contacted the sand. Are the actions of the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee correct?

Initially the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee is in error. It is correct that they are not allowed to whistle that the ball has contacted the sand.

Additionally, the actions of the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee in reporting the ball contacting the sand at the end of the rally are correct but late.

This should have been immediately signaled to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee at the time of the contact.

The 1<sup>st</sup> referee is, due to his / her position on the referee's stand, in a difficult position to judge this fault and they should expect their fellow officials to assist them in making this call.

**8.5** The ENG (W) player serves a low, fast serve that slightly touches the net near the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee. Only the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee notices this. He blows his whistle and stops play signaling a net fault and indicating the team to serve. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee repeats the hand signals giving the service to the INA team. Is this a correct action by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee?

No. This is an incorrect interpretation by both officials. The ball touching the net after the service is not a fault. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee should call a tie ball (replay) and re authorize a new service. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee has additionally incorrectly stopped play for a presumed fault which was outside his jurisdiction.

**8.6** At the time of the service by the GER (M) team the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee is talking to the receiving, NOR team. The GER team stops until the receiving team is clearly ready but the 1<sup>st</sup> referee having already signaled for service charges the GER team with a 5 seconds service penalty. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee does not indicate any problem to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee despite the protests of the GER team. How should this have been correctly resolved?

There are a number of aspects to correctly resolving this circumstance.

- (1) The 1<sup>st</sup> referee should after the protest of the GER team, have checked with the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee as to his / her explanation of the offence.
- (2) The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee is obliged to convey this important information to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee, as it would change the decision. They are in error for not telling the 1<sup>st</sup> referee

in this case.

There is an expectation that officials will collaborate with each other to convey information, even when they might appear to contradict each other. In this way the 1<sup>st</sup> referee can make a final decision based on all available information.

A referee when confronted with a difficult decision in which they may not have all the information necessary to make an accurate decision should try to check with all relevant officials to gain this additional information.

The 1<sup>st</sup> referee must not authorize service without ensuring that the receiving team is ready to receive service.

**8.7** At the time of the service the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee has changed his position so that he can see both the receiving and serving teams. The serving player serves from outside the extension of the sideline and the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee whistles and indicates a fault. Is this correct?

No. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee has whistled outside their jurisdiction.

They have initially shown good technique to watch for and assist in signaling this fault. However they should only indicate to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee, not blow their whistle.

Their position at the time of service should be such that they can watch both the server and the receiving team.

Watching the receiving team is however the primary functions of the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee at the time of the service.

**8.8** During the match AUS vs. GER (W) the ball is attacked strongly by GER. The AUS defending player is unable to easily control the ball and it travels low to the ground in the direction of the net. The AUS player who has just blocked manages to retrieve the ball but only after it has passed completely the vertical plane of the net. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee does not notice this action but the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee directly blows his whistle indicating a fault by the AUS team. What decision should the 1<sup>st</sup> referee now take?

The 1<sup>st</sup> referee must call a replay. While there has been a fault by AUS (playing the ball after it has completely crossed the vertical plane of the net) it is not within the jurisdiction of the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee to stop play by whistling this fault. He / she should only indicate this fault during (or if appropriate after) play.

This case shows us that the speed of the whistle is extremely important for all officials (it may establish the order that faults occurred in) and that the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee should indicate by use of hand signals appropriate information to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee so that decisions can be made within each officials areas of jurisdiction.

**8.9** During the match between NOR and AUS (M) the ball is served by NOR. The AUS #1 player receives the ball and it flies to a position very near the sign boards that mark the outside of the playing area. The partner (AUS #2) seeing that the ball is very high in the air believes that he has potential play on the ball and runs very quickly towards the ball and is in a position to play the ball just inside the signboards. At the moment just before the AUS #2 player can play the ball a ball retriever reaches above the player and catches the ball. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee calls a replay. Is the referee correct in this decision?

Yes, The referee is correct in replaying the point. It is considered in this case that the ball retriever has initiated the contact with the ball.

The referees, TV staff and auxiliary officials within the free zone are considered as not causing external interference unless they initiate the contact (or threat of contact) with the player and or the ball. An official in their normal working position does not therefore constitute interference.

The official should however take all practical steps so as to not initiate the external interference.

### SCORER

**8.10** The player of PUR (M) #1 serves the ball and gains a point. After some discussion the Scorer then notifies the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee that #2 should have served the previous service. How should the referees correct this situation?

The serving team maintaining all its points gained and the service resuming, with #2 of PUR serving corrects this.

The score sheet may need correction to recommence the match. If an illegal player is found to have served they can only be penalised by loss of service if the Scorer (or one of the referees), had correctly notified them that they are an illegal server, prior to their serving. In this case the Scorer has committed an error in his procedures.

**Reference: Case 10.22**

**8.11** During the match the player of the CAN (M) approaches the Scorer and asks how many timeouts the other team BRA has requested (0 or 1).. What is the correct response from the Scorer?

The Scorer should not respond to this request but should notify the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee, who should then ask the teams to resume the match. Players may only request the number of timeouts their team has used and may not do so repeatedly in order to delay the match. Due to teams only having one timeout each per set (in the first 2 sets), referees should be very strict on not accepting this delaying tactic.

**Reference: Case 10.23**

### LINEJUDGES

**8.12** The player of SWE (M) is about to serve. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee whistles and authorizes service, but at the same time the receiving USA team is standing upright and complaining about the position of the line judge who is obscuring the server. Quickly the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee whistles and indicates tie ball (replay) conveying his thoughts to the 1<sup>st</sup>

Yes, this illustrates good collaboration between the officials.

The 1<sup>st</sup> referee should primarily watch the receiving team between rallies, until they are clearly in a position ready to receive and all possible screens by the serving team are

referee. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee also calls tie ball (replay) and authorizes a new service. Is this a correct decision of the 1<sup>st</sup> referee?

not being signaled.

They should then quickly check the serving team players and then authorize service.

If the server significantly alters their position after authorization to serve the referee must again check the reception team for possible new screens being signaled.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee has acted correctly in watching the receiving teams for possible late screening calls, ball on the court etc while also controlling the speed of the match so that no delay occurs.

**8.13** During the match KUW vs. IRI (M) the ball is spiked by KUW taking a slight touch off the block and landing outside the court. The Line judge on that side of the court signals out, however the Line judge on the other side of the court signals 'touch'. The referee signals out accepting only the signal of the Line judge on the side of the court where the ball went out. Is this correct?

No, the referee should have accepted the signal of both line judges regardless of the position on the court and then made a final decision based on their signals.

Often a line judge on the other side of the court is in a better position to see small touches off a block.

**8.14** In a match between AUS vs. AUT (M) there is a long rally. At the start of the rally there is a foot fault indicated by the line judge against AUT, which is indicated, only momentarily by the Line judge and not seen by any other officials. Play continues and AUT win the rally. AUS complain to the referee who checks with the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee and they both indicate they saw nothing. The referee awards the point to AUT. Is this correct handling of this situation?

No. The referee should have asked the Line judge to repeat their signal. Additionally it is also acceptable for the referee to speak to the Line judge about their decision and request them to maintain their signal for a longer time. After a player's service the 1<sup>st</sup> referee should quickly check if any Line judge is signalling for a foot-fault or ball outside the crossing space.

## OFFICIAL'S SIGNALS

**8.15** During a match the player of BEL (M) serves the ball. In the action of serving he puts his foot clearly under the service line. The line judge signals waving their flag and pointing to the line. Immediately the 1<sup>st</sup> referee blows their whistle. What hand signal should the referee then use to show the nature of the fault?

The referees should signal by pointing to the object, in this case the line. This same signal may be used in many cases such as serving outside the extension of the sideline and assisted hit. If no other official signal can be used pointing to the object may be used to clarify the decision to the players. The referee must use this signal in order to

clearly show or clarify the nature of the fault.

**8.16** In a match the PUR (M) player serves the ball which lands just inside the line. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee blows the whistle immediately, but is unsure of what to signal. Would this circumstance be different if the ball landed in the middle of the court?

Initially the referees must signal the team, which now has the service. Then they must decide whether or not to signal the nature of the fault. Generally they should signal if any uncertainty exists / clarification is required for the players, officiating corps and spectators. This applies to the following cases:

- (a) If the ball (in or out) lands near the line
- (b) If the touch is small
- (c) To clarify the decision where uncertainty exists
- (d) In all other circumstances (ball handling, net touch etc) this also applies to signalling the player at fault.

The signal for nature of the fault would not be made if the ball landed in the middle of the court.

**8.17** During a match the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee penalizes the CHI (M) player for a net touch whistling immediately. He then shows the team to serve and then the nature of the fault. Is this a correct order of hand signals?

No. The order of hand signals is different for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> referee in this situation. When they whistle a fault, the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee should then show the nature of the fault. After this, if necessary, the player at fault and then finally wait for the 1<sup>st</sup> referee to signal the team to serve and follow his / her signal. There is also a slight difference in the order of hand signals for a double fault.

**8.18** The player of NZL (W) serves the ball and it hits her partner (who is standing near the net) in the back. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee signals that the LAT team now has the serve but wonders if he should also signal the nature of the fault although it was an obvious fault. Advise the referee on the correct signals in this situation.

In principle the 1<sup>st</sup> referee does not signal the nature of the fault in this case because it is obvious (only signal the team to serve). It is important for a referee to consider the implications of not signalling the nature of the fault. Does it clarify the decision (double contact, net touch, in etc)? If it does the referee concerned should signal.

# CHAPTER 9

## SPECIAL CASES

**9.1** With the score 15:14 (3<sup>rd</sup> set) in the match ITA vs. TUR (M) the ITA team serves an ace that lands clearly on the line. The line judge signals out. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee consults all officials and signals TUR to serve and then out. The ITA team vigorously protests to all the officials and then formally requests for a Protest Protocol based on the wrong judgment by all officials involved. The Protest Protocol is held and the ball is called as "in" thus finishing the match. Is this decision correct?

The decision by the 1<sup>st</sup> Referee to allow the Protest Protocol to commence is correct. It will be then the decision of the concerned Supervisors to decide the appropriate sequence for the Protest Protocol.

Immediately upon arrival on court, the concerned Supervisor should have checked the facts of the protest with the 1<sup>st</sup> referee and the relevant team, decided to "Not Initiate" the Protest Protocol at Level1.

Relevant facts would be then registered at the score sheet, and the match immediately resumed as ball out.

This decision by the referee is a judgment call and its accuracy cannot be protested, only its interpretation under the rules. It is not relevant if the Supervisor personally saw the ball as in or out.

A Protest Protocol can only be "Initiated" if a legal protest is requested (i.e.: that satisfies one or more of the three criteria listed in the Protest Protocol)

NOTE: Under new 2012 regulations, the 1<sup>st</sup> Referee must first determine whether the protest is legitimate by considering the criteria under which a protest can be lodged before initiating the Protest Protocol. In this case, the 1<sup>st</sup> Referee should have refused to initiate the Protest Protocol as ball in/out is a judgment call and cannot be protested.

**9.2** The CUB (M) were playing CAN. The CUB players wanted the match to be played at a very quick pace while the CAN team intentionally slowed the match down due to the heat. How should the referee respond to both teams actions?

The referees should try as much as possible to keep the pace of the match constant. They should especially not allow the match to be excessively delayed, especially between rallies. The time between rallies may be shortened, to be less than 12 seconds, if both teams are ready. However, this time between rallies cannot be extended without permission of the Supervisor (to 15

**9.3** During the match vs. GER (M), the JPN player raced quickly after the ball and made a sensational dig as he fell over the sponsorship. The player's extraordinary effort drew great applause from the crowd. However the player's contact was slightly carried and the 1<sup>st</sup> referee blew his whistle and signaled the ball as held ball. The crowd was very vocal in expressing displeasure with the referee's decision. Was this call correct?

seconds). Additionally, the referees in this circumstance must be seen to be neutral and equitable in their handling of the pace of the match favoring neither team and warning or penalizing as appropriate.

The referee should remember that they are not only the person who administers the match under the rules but they allow under their guidance a promotion of the sport of Beach Volleyball.

Spectacularly is an important aspect of any sports promotion.

The referee must keep a balance between applying rigidly the technical requirements of the sport with the promotional, cultural and societal aspects of a sport.

It is necessary for the referee to allow this spectacular action of the game to be emphasized at the expense of its technical nature.

**9.4** During the match there is a disagreement over the correct server of the MEX (W) team. Initially the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee and Scorer confer and respond that it is player #1. Then after further protests from the MEX team the 1<sup>st</sup> referee correctly ascertains that it is in fact #2 who should serve. The situation is corrected. What is the procedure for checking the service order?

The score sheet is designed to allow the service order to be checked easily. There are 4 boxes labeled I to IV (1-4) which corresponds to the service order. The number of the player is inserted next to this box. The team that serves first will be serving #I and #III in the serving order. The other team #II and #IV. The scorer follows a regular pattern in recording the services, regardless of which team commences the service, A (left side) or B (right side). It is important that the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee check that the very first service of the match is recorded next to the top box #I. This will ensure that the service order is correctly initially recorded.

**Reference: Case 10.24**

**9.5** In the match INA vs. ENG (W) the hat of the ENG player falls from her head during a block and touches the net during its fall. The referee calls a net fault and awards the serve to INA. Is this a correct interpretation of the rules?

No, while the hat is considered part of the player's uniform and therefore part of the player (who may not touch the net) this only applies if the hat is physically contacting (i.e.: on), the player.

This rule would also apply to a watch, glasses, jewellery or any other equipment or accessory that the player was wearing. However a fault may be called if the object interferes with the opponents play (e.g. hits them).

Net touches are considered faults except:

- (1) The net touching the player (e.g. in windy conditions)
- (2) Touches of the net by a player's hair
- (3) Object touches the net, which is not in contact with the player.

**9.6** During the match BEL vs. SUI (M) the player of BEL questions a referee's interpretation of an interference call with the score 13:13 (Set 2). He, after hearing the referee's explanation of the circumstances, appears satisfied with it. However, after losing the match he records a protest on the score sheet within 20 minutes, protesting the interpretation of the interference call and asks for the match to be replayed from this point. Should the Supervisor allow the protest?

**Reference: Case 10.25**

**9.7** In a World Tour match CHN vs. KOR (W), the referee makes a number of difficult calls. The players formally protest a number of times but no Protest Protocol is initiated by the referee during the match. After the match the referee admits to the Supervisors that he made a number of misinterpretations of the rules. What should the Supervisor now do?

This protest should not be accepted as the player at the time of the interference did not register formally a protest (i.e.: request a Protest Protocol).

At the time of the dispute the referee should ask the player "Do you wish to Protest?" If they answer no, or do not answer and resume play, then no later protest on this interpretation of the referee is possible. Protests must be requested at the time of the occurrence. It may then be either referred to a Protest Protocol by the Supervisor immediately (Level 1), or after the match (Level 2), depending on the circumstances.

This situation presents a very difficult decision for the Supervisor. If all of the following had occurred, the Supervisor should accept the Protest of the players, hold a Protest Protocol (Level 2) and consider the possibility of replaying the match at the appropriate starting point:

- (1) At the time of the protest the teams correctly signified their intention to protest to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee.
- (2) This was recorded correctly on the score sheet (to enable the match to be correctly resumed).
- (3) The protest was reaffirmed correctly after the match within 20 minutes and signed by the respective captain.
- (4) The protest satisfies the criteria for holding a Protest Protocol (misinterpretation etc).
- (5) The 1<sup>st</sup> referee (or other officials) verifies that there was a misinterpretation etc (i.e.: the protest is correct).
- (6) That the protest was material to the result of the match
- (7) That the Protest satisfies the criteria of the Protest

## Protocol Level 2

**9.8** The player of SWE is about to serve. At this time the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee is watching the receiving team FRA who are possibly going to call a timeout as late as possible before the service. In quick succession the FRA team signals timeout, the 1<sup>st</sup> referee whistles for service and the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee whistles for the timeout. Should the referees allow the timeout?

The referees should not allow the timeout even if the request for timeout was prior to the signal for service.

The timing of the whistles from the respective officials determines whether the timeout signal is accepted. As the 1<sup>st</sup> referee had already authorized service, the timeout request should not be accepted.

It is the responsibility of the player to signal for timeout early enough so that the referee may whistle before the authorization for service.

This circumstance should be dealt with very quickly, by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee, so as to not cause a delay, in effect giving the team, a free time out. They should quickly call a tie ball (replay) and then re-authorize service.

**9.9** The players of both teams THA and INA (W) switch sides when the court scoreboard reads 2:3 (Set 3). However the Scorer points out quickly that the score is still 2:2 and so no side change should have taken place. How should the referees correct this situation?

The teams should quickly be requested to return to their previous court sides and the match resumed. This situation is different from a switch of sides greater than a multiple of 5 (or 7) in that the error can be corrected to enable teams to switch sides at a correct multiple of 5 (or 7).

**Reference: Case 10.26**

If teams do switch courts incorrectly (with a multiple greater than 5 (or 7)) one team is clearly disadvantaged. No subsequent alteration is made to the multiple at which court switches are made. They resume the match and continue to change at multiples of 5 (or 7).

**9.10** During the match USA vs. BRA (W) the 1<sup>st</sup> referee at the score 13:12 calls a double contact fault on the BRA team giving the USA team a point. Believing the USA team has scored a point the BRA team calls a Timeout (score now 14:12). However very quickly the referees notice that a line judge is signaling foot fault on the USA team

The referee has acted correctly in changing the decision based on the line judges foot-fault signal. The time out although legally requested should now be cancelled and the players requested to return to the court. The players incorrectly called the timeout in reaction to the awarding of the 14<sup>th</sup> point.

After discussion among the referees the 1<sup>st</sup> referee signals foot fault, reverses the point gained by the USA, awards the BRA team the service but what should the referees do about the Timeout called?

By canceling this point the referees should resume the match at its exact previous situation regarding timeouts. This same interpretation would not apply to any misconduct penalties applied after the 14<sup>th</sup> point was awarded.

**Reference: Case 10.27**

**9.11** A player from SWE (W) is about to serve. At this time a player from the receiving CZE team raises her hand to request that the ball retriever change their position (as they are creating a screen or distraction). The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee blows their whistle before the 1<sup>st</sup> referee can authorize the service. After a short delay the ball retriever changes their position and the service is then authorized by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee. Who has the responsibility to monitor the work of the ball retrievers?

It is primarily the responsibility of the 1<sup>st</sup> referee to monitor the work of the ball retrievers.

They should importantly ensure that ball retrievers:

- (1) At the time of service the ball is not being transferred and that the ball retrievers' position does not represent a screen or distraction to any of the players.
- (2) That during the rally the ball is not being transferred. This should be done immediately at the end of the rally.
- (3) That a ball is always available for the server and that it is in correct condition (not sandy, dry etc.)

The same general principles also apply to the work of the line judges (i.e.: they should not through their position interfere with the service).

**9.12** During a match, ITA vs. USA (M), the ball is spiked and lands out very close to the line gaining the USA team a sideout. The ITA team disputes this decision very strongly and both players receive a final warning (yellow card for misconduct) from the referee. After being requested to return to the court to continue the match, the ITA team refuses to do so and player #1 receives a Misconduct penalty. After further debate between the players and the officials the ITA #1 player receives a second Misconduct penalty for rude conduct. The Supervisor is then requested by the Referee to come to the court to convene a Protest Protocol. After hearing the referee's explanations for the decisions, the Supervisor decides to remove one of the 2 Misconduct penalties issued to the ITA team and to recommence from that point in the match. Is this a correct decision by the Supervisor?

No, this is an incorrect application of the rules by the Supervisor. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee has been correct in his application of the rules regarding both the interpretation of "out" and the offences that lead to the penalization of the player with a Misconduct penalty and a Misconduct penalty for rude conduct on two subsequent occasions.

The referee has clearly given the player a final verbal warning. It is not correct to reverse misconduct penalties if the referee's original decision (out) was misinterpreted or the referee has shown a lack of control or judgment previously during the match.

Each act or decision (in this case 3) must be treated individually within the Rules and Spirit of the Game.

**9.13** In a match between FRA and MEX (M) the 1<sup>st</sup> referee notices a FRA player going into the referee's rest room complaining about the referee's performance from the previous match. In a timeout the 1<sup>st</sup> referee calls the FRA player too him and tells him that his behaviour is not

No. At all times before, during and after a match a referee must behave in a professional manner. The behaviour of the FRA player should be reported by the relevant officials and dealt with only by the Supervisors, not fellow officials. It is extremely important that referees maintain their

correct. After the match the 1<sup>st</sup> referee again confronts the FRA player about his actions and continues to argue with the FRA player. Is this acceptable professional behaviour from the 1st referee?

professional integrity, neutrality and use common sense when dealing with unusual circumstances such as misconducts after matches.

**9.14** An EST (M) player attempts to spike. In his run up he trips when he steps into a large hole in the sand. The player is unsuccessful in his attack hit. The referee does not call a replay. Is this correct?

This is a very difficult situation. The referee must judge if the court presented a danger to the players, which affected the player's ability to play the ball.

If a player stood on an object under the sand and clearly was affected by this then this would be considered as external interference and a replay called. However in the case of the level of the sand being uneven this is not considered to constitute normally a danger to the players.

A player may between rallies request that the referee consider leveling the court or a specific area. This situation can largely be prevented by the referees requiring the court to be leveled between matches and the officials monitoring the condition of the court during the match.

**9.15** During the match CAN vs. SUI (M), the 1<sup>st</sup> referee has cause to request to discuss a playing action with a line judge and 2<sup>nd</sup> referee (following the CAN teams protesting of a decision). Based on the evidence of the officials the 1<sup>st</sup> referee feels that it is appropriate to commence a Protest Protocol. During the conducting of the Protest Protocol it becomes obvious to the Supervisor that a line judge is not competent to continue in this function. Is the Supervisor able to replace the line judge during a match?

Yes, the Supervisor is able to replace a line judge or any other match official during a match. This process should however only be utilized in extreme circumstances and should be conducted in such a way that it respects individuals dignity, is transparent in nature and follows the spirit of the FIVB's Code of Conduct.

The players should be formally informed of the decision by the Supervisor.

**9.16** While a match between CUB and BRA (M) is being played both referees observe that the coach of the CUB team is standing behind the BRA team and conveying their signals and giving instruction to the CUB team. What action should the match officials take in this situation?

The referee(s) should inform the Supervisor(s) of the situation as soon as is practicable. It is desirable that this causes as little delay to the match as is possible. The Supervisors are then responsible for dealing with this situation. It may be required by the Supervisor(s) that the match officials quickly summarizes their observations (after the match). It is not possible for the referees to directly sanction Coaches (as they are not participants) but if their actions cause a delay to the match a delay sanction must be applied to their team.

**9.17** During a match between JPN and USA (M) there are

The Protest Protocol procedures do not allow a Supervisor

a number of difficult decisions for the 1<sup>st</sup> referee. After one decision the team of JPN protests to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee who authorizes the use of a Protest Protocol. The relevant Supervisor who has not seen the action being protested is called to the court. Just before the Supervisor entered the playing court the coach of JPN requested to him that he views the video tape of the action being protested as a way of assisting him to make a decision in the Protest Protocol. The Official declines this request and proceeds to enact the Protest Protocol. Can the Supervisor(s) choose to view the video at some point during a Protest Protocol?

**9.18** In a match between GER (team A) and GER (team B) player No (2) of team (A) brushed against a stationary handheld TV camera during his run up for a spike. This was not visible from the outside and had no impact on his attack and play of the ball. The player hit the ball OUT. He then complained to the referee about the contact asking for a replay. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee, after consulting with the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee, decided that a replay was not appropriate as the cameraman, although close to the court, was in a stationary position. Team A then formally protested the decision and the interpretation of the rules by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee and a Protest Protocol was then requested. The Referee Delegate came to the court and after obtaining all the evidence from the referees, players and cameraman, decided to uphold the decision of the referee. Team A then requested a Level 2 Protest Protocol. The Executive Committee members were called to the court and after evaluating all the information from the RD, Referee, Players and Cameraman, upheld the decision of the RD and communicated this to both captains.

at Level 1 to view video footage from an unofficial source (the JPN coach).

The only situation where a Supervisor(s) can review official TV or video footage is in the case Level 2 Protest or a protest about a match's score.

No video footage from an unofficial source can be used at any level of protest.

Point 21.5 of the Refereeing Guidelines states:

The 1<sup>st</sup> Referee has the responsibility to judge all areas of external interference including members of the auxiliary corps, spectators and other objects/persons.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Referee after consulting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Referee decided not to replay the point based on the fact the cameraman was in a stationary position close to the court.

This meant that there was no movement towards the player or ball and did not interfere with the players approach.

All personnel in the playing area (members of the refereeing crew, auxiliary corps etc. as well as court competition equipment, TV cameras, microphones, etc.) whose or which presence inside the free zone has been sanctioned before the start of the match, cannot be considered as external interference unless:

- (1) There is a significant alteration to their initial position (e.g.: net camera falls during play)
- (2) Or a deliberate movement towards the player who is in the action of playing the ball (e.g. a ball retriever runs towards the ball or rolls the ball during play affecting the playing action of the player.)

NOTE: Under 2012 regulations, the Level 2 protest would be recorded on the score sheet at the time of the protest and only evaluated by the Executive Committee after the

conclusion of the match.

# CHAPTER 10

## SCORERS CASES

The following cases are all written from a scorer's perspective only, and can be utilised for training courses and instruction of scorers.

**10.1** During the official warm up period the referee notices that the teams of KOR and FRA (W) have the same coloured playing uniforms. Should the scorer also check the teams playing uniforms?

**Reference: Case 2.4**

The scorer should check all aspects of a team's uniform prior to the match especially during the official warm up time.

This includes colour and design of the uniform, #1 and #2 size and location and that the correct players are wearing the correct uniforms as listed on the score sheet.

Any concerns should immediately be conveyed to the referees.

**10.2** In a match between UKR and BRA (M) the players of UKR are discovered (at the score of 1:6 in Set 1) to be playing in uniforms that do not correspond with their registered names on the score sheet (i.e.: they have the wrong tops on). How should the scorer correct this error?

**Reference: Case 2.9**

This situation is corrected by changing one or a combination of the uniforms, score sheet and the serving player depending on the situation. No penalty shall apply. The score remains 1:6 and the respective serving team will resume the match. When the captains sign the Pre match Signature box on the score sheet, the scorer is specifically required to check that the player's name and uniform number matches. The captain in signing the score sheet is verifying that their teams recorded details are correct.

**10.3** At the end of a long and difficult match the players of FRA (M) leave the playing court immediately and the captain is unable to be found to sign the score sheet. What action should the scorer take in this circumstance?

**Reference: Case 2.14**

The scorer should immediately inform the referees that they have not received the captain's signature on the score sheet, when the referees approach the scorer's table to verify the matches' score sheet (after trying unsuccessfully themselves). It is the scorer's responsibility to complete the score sheet except for the official's signatures and in some cases the remarks section. It is the referee's responsibility to obtain the captains signature and to inform the Supervisor(s) in case any captain does not show up to sign the score sheet in the next 20 minutes following the

**10.4** Prior to the match the Technical Supervisor and the BRA (W) player approached the referees. The player confirmed her wish to Default her next match due to a medical injury, which was accepted by the Supervisor. What procedures should the scorer follow to record this default on the score sheet?

**Reference: Case 3.1**

**10.5** The teams of JPN and IND (M) finish their official protocol and enter the court to start their match. The 1<sup>st</sup> server for JPN #1 goes to the serving position. The Scorer immediately draws the referee's attention to the fact that the score sheet states that the first server should be #2. What should the scorer now do?

**Reference: Case 4.4**

**10.6** The captains of the respective teams conduct the coin toss. Having won the coin toss, the BEL captain asks permission to go onto the court for a minute, to help decide on which side to choose, due to the strong winds. The BEL captain signs the score sheet and then goes to his partner on the court. What should the scorer do to ensure that this information is received?

**Reference: Case 4.1**

**10.7** The NZL (M) team, at the end of the AUS team's

completion of the match. It will be then the responsibility of the relevant Supervisor to sign 'pp' on behalf of the missing captain and to follow up on the eventual sanction required.

The scorer must record sufficient details on the score sheet to complete the match with a 21-0, 21-0 (2-0) result. This includes the Pre-match / Post Match signatures, Match result and Central score (0-21 crossed off and circled in both sets).

The 1<sup>st</sup> referee should write the remarks section information before finally signing verifying the match result. It is not necessary to show any service order or duration, which is 0 minutes.

This score sheet may be completed away from the court to enable the next match to commence. This is done under the control of the 1<sup>st</sup> referee at all times.

The scorer should wait until the referees have finished determining if there is the possibility of an error in communication of the service order.

If the 1<sup>st</sup> referee authorizes the #1 player of JPN to serve, the scorer should just change the JPN team's service order box.

However, if the #2 player is made to serve, no change to the score sheet is necessary.

The scorer is correct in informing the officials and players of this problem but they cannot insist the players change server. This is the responsibility of the referees.

The scorer should be active in obtaining the decision for court and service order from the BEL team. If neither the referees nor team have conveyed the decision to the scorer after 1 minute, the referees (usually 2<sup>nd</sup> referee) should be informed of this.

The match must not commence until this information has been received.

The scorer should initially verify which team called the

timeout, requests a timeout. What procedure should the referees now follow?

**Reference: Case 6.3**

**10.8** During a match MAL vs. IRI (M), the referee after a number of small verbal warnings and hand gestures for delaying the match issues a Delay warning to the MAL team. Later in the match the MAL team again delays the match and the referee again speaks to the MAL team penalising them with a second Delay warning. What should the scorer do when the referee issues a 2<sup>nd</sup> Delay warning to MAL?

**Reference: Case 6.4**

**10.9** The player of SUI (M) requests to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee for permission to wipe his glasses immediately at the end of the rally. He, with the referee's permission, goes to the line judge and wipes his glasses. He then proceeds to wipe his head and arms with the small towel. The referee whistles and requests that the player return to the court while also verbally issuing the player a warning. Should the scorer record this warning on the score sheet?

**Reference: Case 6.7**

**10.10** During the match the USA (M) player is injured. The player confirms to the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee that he is injured and requires a medical time-out. He does not wait for the medical staff but instead leaves the court, without either referee's permission. After 5 minutes the 1<sup>st</sup> referee (after consulting with the Supervisor), declares the team incomplete, as the player has been unable to be found by the referees or Supervisors. What steps should the scorer take to record all the circumstances of this medical injury?

**Reference: Case 6.9**

timeout and then record it in the appropriate box. While the teams are at their designated chairs the scorer should indicate the team's respective number of timeouts used (both one). In the case of both teams no more timeouts are allowed. This would be communicated by the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee, not the scorer, to the teams at the end of the timeout.

As the first delay is already correctly recorded on the score sheet and delay sanctions apply to a team, not an individual, it is not possible to have a second delay warning. They must receive a delay penalty.

The scorer must immediately inform both officials that this team had previously received a delay warning. It may be necessary to ask the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee to come to the scorer's table to discuss this circumstance so that he / she can convey the information to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee.

No. This is only a verbal warning. The referee has not used the official hand signal for a Delay Warning.

A Delay Warning would be recorded on the score sheet in the appropriate box.

Scorers must carefully check as to whether the team has received a verbal warning or a Delay warning. If the scorer is unsure, he / she should always check with the referees.

It is important that the scorer records 3 sets of times:

- (1) When did the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee ask the player "Do you require medical time-out?"
- (2) When did the medical staff arrive at the playing court and
- (3) When did the 5 minutes medical injury time finish.

In this case the medical staff did not arrive at the court (as the player went to it).

This recording should be done in hours / minutes / seconds.

**10.11** A player gets a minor cut on his arm (involving blood) after diving to retrieve a ball. The referees allow the player to quickly clean and bandage the cut without use of Timeouts or using his Medical time-out. Should the scorer record any remarks about this short delay?

**Reference: Case 6.10**

**10.12** Prior to the match POR vs. USA (M) the POR team deliberately delayed the official protocol, not coming on to the playing court when requested. Consequently the start of the match was delayed by 2 minutes. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee began the match with a delay warning to the POR team. How would this be recorded on the score sheet?

**Reference: Case 6.8**

**10.13** The World Tour match USA vs. ITA (M) is played late in the afternoon. With ITA leading 12-10 in the first set, the USA player's request that the referee stops the match due to lack of light. After consideration of the request by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee and then the Supervisor, the match is stopped and started again the next day with the score 0:0. How should the scorer record details of this decision?

**Reference: Case 6.14**

Additionally the scorer should record in the remarks section the current score and the team and player serving at the time the referee stopped the match due to an injury. The scorer should record sufficient details to potentially enable the match to be re recommenced in exactly the same position or for a Supervisor to clearly calculate the duration of any stoppage. It is the responsibility of the referee and Supervisor to record the reasons for the decision to declare the team incomplete in the remarks section of the score sheet.

No. The referees have correctly allowed a short time to be used to correct this problem.

The scorer should not record on the score sheet a delay or misconduct sanction or record details of a medical injury on the back of the score sheet (remarks section).

The recording of these 3 possibilities must only be commenced after an official hand signal (sanctions) or upon verbal request of the referee for a medical injury.

The scorer should record the time the match started after the delay (e.g. 09: 02) in the start time box. The POR team should also have recorded in its Delay sanction box the score of 0:0.

Nothing should be written at this time in the remarks section of the score sheet.

The scorer should not change any part of the score sheet except for recording in the remarks section of the score sheet, the exact time, current score and the team and player serving at the time the referee stopped the match due to lack of light. These same details should be recorded each time a match is stopped due to such events as rain, light or wind. The scorer should record sufficient details to potentially enable the match to be recommenced in exactly the same position or for a Supervisor to clearly calculate the duration of any stoppage. It is the responsibility of the referee and Supervisor to record the reasons for the decision to stop play and then recommence the next day,

**10.14** At the end of a rally a player from FRA (M) kicks the ball deliberately out of the playing area after the referee calls his team for a ball-handling fault. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee gives a red card (misconduct penalty) for rude conduct. Where should the scorer record this on the score sheet?

**Reference: Case 7.1**

**10.15** During the match NED vs. RUS (M), both the NED players commit a number of minor misconduct's. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee verbally warns the players on a number of occasions and finally after misconduct by a NED player he penalizes that player with a misconduct warning. Additionally he warns both the NED players that any further misconduct will result in a misconduct penalty. Should the scorer record this verbal warning to the players?

**Reference: Case 7.2**

**10.16** In a World Tour match NZL vs. ARG, a NZL player receives a misconduct penalty for rude conduct. Later in the same set the same player is penalised for rude conduct. The referee again gives a misconduct penalty to the player. What should the scorer do in this situation?

**Reference: Case 7.3**

**10.17** In a match with USA (M), in Set 1 a BRA player receives a number of verbal warnings for minor misconducts and then receives a misconduct warning.

in the remarks section of the score sheet.

This should be recorded in the misconduct sanctions section of the score sheet in the box corresponding to the penalised player. The score at the time of the penalty (not after) should be entered, as there is a point scored it should be circled in the point's row. While also being a rude conduct sanction; the score registered at the box corresponding to the penalised player must be circled.

The scorer must signal to the referees when he / she is finished recording the details of this sanction.

At the end of the game, this offence must be recorded accurately in the remarks section of the score sheet while clearly identifying the nature (type) of the offence in accordance to the "Misconduct sanction fee scale" description.

Note: this ruling has been duly adapted to the current regulations concerning the "Misconduct sanction fee scale".

No. Any verbal warning given by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee is not recorded on the score sheet.

It is up to the referee to remember that the player has received a warning.

The scorer should only enter the details of the misconduct warning.

This is a difficult situation. A player may receive a second (or more) misconduct penalties in a set but only for repetition of unsportsmanlike conduct. In all cases of repetition of misconduct penalty the scorer must confirm the nature of the sanction with the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee.

The scorer should record the misconduct warning and penalty on the score sheet in set 1. In set 2 the scorer should not record any misconduct sanction unless advised

Later in this set, the same BRA player receives a misconduct penalty for another repetition of misconduct. In Set 2, the same BRA player commits another minor misconduct. What should the scorer now do?

**Reference: Case 7.4**

**10.18** During a World Tour Match, a USA (M) player pulled the net with such force that it broke a post holding the net. The match was subsequently restarted on another court with the same score after a 1-hour delay and no penalty to the offending USA player. How would the scorer record the 1-hour delay on the score sheet?

**Reference: Case 7.5**

**10.19** Between the second and third 'sets' of a match against NOR, the USA (M) player makes a derogatory remark about the officials. A misconduct penalty is given by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee to commence the third set. The USA team has the first service for the third set. What is the correct action by the scorer?

**Reference: Case 7.7**

by the officials. If they are unsure the scorer should confirm whether or not the player has received a verbal warning, misconduct warning or a misconduct penalty. Note that misconducts are individual within a set and are not cumulative in nature.

The scorer should not change any part of the score sheet except for recording in the remarks section of the score sheet, the exact time, current score and the team and player serving at the time the referee stopped the match due to net system failure.

The scorer should record sufficient details to potentially enable the match to be re recommenced in exactly the same position or for a Supervisor to clearly calculate the duration of any stoppage.

It is the responsibility of the referee and Supervisor to record the reasons for the decision to stop play and then recommence on another court without penalty, on the back of the score sheet (remarks section).

The 1<sup>st</sup> referee after he / she has given the misconduct penalty to the USA, must show the other team to serve (NOR). This counts as the first USA service attempt and should be recorded in the 1st box for service order. The NOR team now has the service (player II in the service order). With each service resulting in a team winning a point, the NOR team now should have 1 point in the points row, which should be circled because it came from a sanction. However he / she should record next to the appropriate player a Misconduct penalty with the score 0:0 while also circling the score due to this being a rude conduct sanction.

At the end of the game, this offence must be recorded accurately in the remarks section of the score sheet while clearly identifying the nature (type) of the offence in accordance to the "Misconduct sanction fee scale" description.

Note: this ruling has been duly adapted to the current

**10.20** With the score at 11:13 (Set 3) an AUS (M) player receives a misconduct penalty for rude conduct (score now 11:14). The player is upset with this decision and in anger tears his playing uniform completely in half. Immediately the 1<sup>st</sup> referee penalizes the AUS player with expulsion, which finishes the match (because it is the 3<sup>rd</sup> set). How should the scorer record both of these penalties?

**Reference: Case 7.8**

**10.21** With the score at 13:14 the CAN (M) player spikes the ball which slightly touches the block and lands out. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee signals ball out ending the match. After approaching the referees chair and protesting to the 1<sup>st</sup> referee the CAN player becomes upset and pulls down the protective padding and court number from the referee's chair. Should the scorer allow recording of remarks about this action, although the match has been completed?

**Reference: Case 7.9**

**10.22** The player of PUR (M) #1 serves the ball and gains a point. After some discussion the Scorer then notifies the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee that #2 should have served the previous service. What is the next step for the scorer?

**Reference: Case 8.10**

**10.23** During the match the player of the CAN (M) approaches the Scorer and asks how many timeouts the other team BRA has had. What is the correct response

regulations concerning the "Misconduct sanction fee scale".

The scorer should cross off the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> points in the Score row. As these points were gained by sanctioning they should additionally be circled.

In the misconduct sanctions boxes, the scores 11:13 (penalty) and 11:14 (expulsion) should be entered to show the 2 misconduct sanctions while the first score needs to be circled due to this being a rude conduct penalty.

The recording of both offences in the remarks section of the score sheet must be written accurately while clearly identifying the nature (type) of each of the offences in accordance to the "Misconduct sanction fee scale" description.

Note: this ruling has been duly adapted to the current regulations concerning the "Misconduct sanction fee scale"...

Yes. The scorer does not make the decision about whether to let a player or referee write in the remarks section of the score sheet. This is the responsibility of the referees and Supervisor.

The referee may choose to use the remarks section to record information about this problem even after the match has been completed and the result verified.

The serving team maintaining all its points gained and the service resuming, with #2 of PUR serving corrects this. The score sheet may need correction to recommence the match. If an illegal player is found to have served they can only be penalised by loss of service if the Scorer (or one of the referees), had correctly notified them that he / she is an illegal server, prior to them serving. In this case the Scorer has committed an error in his / her procedures.

The Scorer should not respond to this request but should notify the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee who should ask the teams to resume the match. Players may only request the number of

from the Scorer?

**Reference: Case 8.11**

**10.24** During the match there is a disagreement over the correct server of the MEX (W) team. Initially the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee and Scorer confer and respond that it is player #1. Then after further protests from the MEX team the 1<sup>st</sup> referee correctly ascertains that it is in fact #2 who should serve. The situation is corrected. What is the procedure for checking the service order by the scorer?

**Reference: Case 9.4**

**10.25** During the match BEL vs. SUI (M) the player of BEL questions a referees interpretation of an interference call with the score 13:13 (Set 2). He, after hearing the referee's explanation of the circumstances, appears satisfied with it. However, after losing the match he records a protest on the score sheet within 20 minutes, protesting the interpretation of the interference call and asks for the match to be replayed from this point. Should the scorer have allowed the recording of this protest?

**Reference: Case 9.6**

**10.26** The players of both teams THA and INA (W) switch sides when the court scoreboard reads 2:3 (Set 3). However the Scorer points out quickly that the score is still 2:2 and so no side change should have taken place. What techniques should a scorer use to prevent this error?

**Reference: Case 9.9**

**10.27** During the match USA vs. BRA (W) the 1<sup>st</sup> referee at the score 13:12 calls a double contact fault on the BRA team giving the USA team a point. Believing the USA team has scored a point the BRA team calls a Timeout (score

Timeouts their team has used and may not do so repeatedly in order to delay the match.

The score sheet is designed to allow the service order to be checked easily.

There are 4 boxes labeled I to IV (1-4) which corresponds to the service order. The number of the player is inserted next to this box. The team that serves first will be serving #I and #III in the serving order. The other team #II and #IV. The scorer follows a regular pattern in recording the services, regardless of which team commences the service, A (left side) or B (right side).

It is important that the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee check that the very first service of the match is recorded next to the top box #I. This will ensure that the service order is correctly initially recorded.

Yes. The scorer does not make the decision about whether to let a player or referee write on the back of the score sheet (remarks section) of the score sheet. This is the responsibility of the referees and Supervisor. As long as this process is started within 20 minutes from the completion of the match it is legal. It would be the responsibility of the Supervisor to determine the validity of this protest and whether to allow this to be recorded on the score sheet. In this case the protest would not be accepted, as the captain did not correctly signify their intention to protest during the match.

The scorer should always indicate point to switch to the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee (e.g. 2:2) and then signal side switch (e.g. 3:2). Referees should appropriately acknowledge both of these signals from the scorer. In this case the scorer was correct in quickly correcting the incorrect side switch so as to avoid a long delay to the match.

The scorer should cancel the recording of the timeout and correct the score row and service order boxes so that BRA now has the serve with the score BRA 12, USA 13.

now 14:12). However very quickly the referees notice that a line judge is signalling foot fault on the USA team. After discussion among the referees the 1<sup>st</sup> referee signals foot fault, reverses the point gained by the USA, awards the BRA team the service but what should the referees do about the Timeout called? What should the scorer now do?

**Reference: Case 9.10**

**10.28** At the 2006 Swatch-FIVB Grand Slam in Stavanger, during the match FRA vs. AUT (W) at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> set, player n° 2 from FRA requested a medical time-out. The official medical staff of the tournament and the FIVB physiotherapist arrived at the court 2 minutes later. After being assisted for 5 minutes the player declared her inability to resume play and consequently (after consultation with the Supervisor) the team from FRA was declared incomplete due to injury of player n° 2. What steps should the scorer take to record all the circumstances of this medical injury?

This same interpretation would not apply to any misconduct penalties applied after the 14<sup>th</sup> point was awarded.

It is important that the scorer records 3 sets of times:

- (1) When did the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee ask the player "Do you require medical time-out?"
- (2) When did the medical staff arrive at the playing court, and
- (3) When did the medical time out finish.

This recording should be done in hours / minutes / seconds.

Additionally the scorer should record sufficient details to potentially enable the match to be resumed as soon as the player is ready to play, or to complete the score sheet in case the team is declared incomplete. This includes recording in the second set concerned boxes all relevant information provided by the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee (serving team, service order of either teams, etc).

In this case the medical time-out was given during the interval and the second set never started.

The scorer should therefore, for final duration of the game, consider the duration of the 1<sup>st</sup> set, the total duration of the stoppage, acquired by the medical time-out (from the 1<sup>st</sup> timing to the 3<sup>rd</sup> timing), plus the duration of the second set (which is technically 0 minutes).

# PART II:

  

# TERMINOLOGY

Antennae	A flexible rod, 1.8m in length, placed vertically and above the outer edge of the sidelines to mark the outer limit of the crossing space. The antennae are placed on opposite sides of the net. The ball must cross the net completely between the 2 antennae to be considered "in". Contrasting 10cm coloured strips are used to 80cm height above net.
Attack Hit	The action of directing the ball into the opponents, court. Serving is not considered an attack hit. Considered completed when the ball completely crosses the vertical plane of the net or touches a block.
Ball mark	The disturbance or movement of the sand created on the court surface by the contact of the ball with the sand. This mark may be checked to determine if the ball is "in" or "out".
Ball Mark Protocol	A procedure initiated by the 1 <sup>st</sup> referee for establishing whether the ball has landed in or out of the court. Conducted as per the FIVB Ball Mark Protocol procedures.
Between rallies	The time between the whistle for completion of a rally and the whistle for service authorization. Under normal circumstances this is a maximum of 12 seconds.
Cap / Hat	Apparel worn on the player's head. Considered, as part of player's uniform when physically on the player. Some aspects are governed by FIVB regulations.
Coin Toss	The action of the 1 <sup>st</sup> referee prior to the match, of requesting the captains of each team to come to an area in front of the scorer's table. This process determines the team to serve the starting side of the court for each team and player service orders.
Court Lines (boundary lines)	These lines delimit the playing area. They are made of resistant material, contrast in colour to the sand and are 5-8 cm wide. The ball must physically contact the line to be considered as "in".
Court Manager	Tournament official responsible for maintaining the court and equipment to the specified technical requirements for the tournament.
Court switches (side changes)	The interval in which the teams change their sides of the playing court. Occurs every 7 points (Sets 1 and 2) and 5 points (3 <sup>rd</sup> Set).
Cover up a fault	A misconduct where a player acts deliberately so that an official will not be able to ascertain a fault (i.e.: they obscure the fault from the officials). E.g.: removing a ball mark
Crossing space	The area above the net and inside the antennas (and their imaginary extension upward) through which the ball must pass (by the attacking team) completely for play to continue legally by the defending team. This area does not include external and lower spaces. Play in some cases may continue even if the ball crosses the net outside the crossing space as long as the team can retrieve the ball and play it legally within its 3 hits through the crossing space.
Default	Where a team is unable to commence the match legally with its players. It forfeits the match and gains no points.

Defensive player (Defending player)	The player(s) from the team who currently have not committed the last contact. The player(s) on the opposite side of the court to the ball.
Designated chairs	The chairs allocated to each team for its use during match protocol and intervals. Located 3-5 metres from scorers' table. Each team uses the same chairs for the entire match. Usually separate and non-metal in construction.
Diagonals (Long / Short)	The distance diagonally across the corners of the rectangular shaped 16x8 m playing court (long) or across from one corner to the corner immediately under the net (short) of one side of the playing court (8x8m).
Double fault (replay)	Two faults occurring at the same time. Results in a replay (the same person serving again with no point scored).
External space	The imaginary area outside the antennas and also not below the bottom of the net between the net poles. The area not including the Crossing and lower spaces.
Extension of sideline	The imaginary line extended from the 2 sidelines in a straight line from the corners until the edge of the free zone. A service must be completed from within the area delimited by these imaginary lines.
Free Zone	The area outside the playing court but inside the panels, signage etc which delimits the outer edges of the free zone.
Foot faults	The illegal action of a player, who at the time of serving or jumping to serve contacts the line has their foot under the line or their foot, contacts the playing court.
Forbidden objects	A player's personal apparel item that may cause injury or give advantage to that or another player. May include jewellery, glasses and plaster casts.
Hard driven ball	An attack hit that is travelling with sufficient speed (quickly) and over distance such that the defending player only has time to only play the ball in an uncontrolled (reflexive) defensive manner.  The time and distance of the balls trajectory (speed of the ball) does not allow the player to substantially control or alter their techniques for receiving the ball.
Hoses	The devices used to spread water on the playing court and free zone to reduce the surface temperature of the sand. Located near the outside of the free zone.
Ice box (Ice chest).	Item of equipment located in or near players designated area for storage of liquids or ice for use by players and / or officials.
Illegal server	When a player serves contrary to the service order recorded on the score sheet and advice of the scorer. The other team gains the right to serve and a point.
Incidental contact	Contact by a player with an opponent that did not have an effect on that player's ability to complete a subsequent play on the ball freely.
Incomplete team	When a team commences but is unable to legally complete a match with its two players. I.e.: due to injury, the other team would then gain enough points to complete the match.

Interference	When a player through physical contact or threat of contact prevents an opponent from a potential play on the ball. It may be the next shot or a subsequent shot.
Improper requests	When a player requests an interruption to the match that is not legal. For example, asking for a Timeout after the referee has authorized service.
Joust	Two players simultaneously contacting the ball with open fingers above the height of the net.
Judges' Conference (-2001) Protest Protocol (2002+)	The formal process under the control of the Supervisor(s) in which the validity of a team's Protest is considered. This may occur during or after a match. Applied under FIVB Protest Protocol Regulations.
Jump Serve	The action of a serving player, who at the time of the service is not in contact with the ground. The action of jumping must commence legally from within the service zone but on landing may contact any part of the playing court or free zone.
Levelling the sand / Raking	The process of flattening or levelling the playing court and its immediate surrounding area. This is usually done prior to the match commencing.
Line judges	Auxiliary officials responsible for assisting the referees in determining faults esp. ball "in", "out" and "touched". Either 2 or 4 people can be used, situated at corners of the court.
Lower space under net	The area below the bottom of the net between the net posts. The area not including the Crossing and External spaces.
Match format	Determines the structure of the match sets. Format for FIVB competition is best of 3 sets, the first 2 being played to 21 (with 2 point advantage) and the 3 <sup>rd</sup> set to 15 (with a 2 point advantage), both with no maximum score.
Measuring rod / stick or pole	A device for measuring the height of the net. Indicative marks are present for all net heights. Should be kept near to the scorer's table.
Medical Injury Protocol	The FIVB regulations controlling the circumstance of a player being injured. Applied under FIVB Medical Injury Protocol.
Metal fastening devices	An illegal method of securing the lines under the sand. Fastening devices must be of soft flexible material.
Momentarily overhand with fingers / beach dig / beach defence	A playing action (receiving a ball) that may be legally used if the ball is hard driven.  Players are allowed legally to hold or carry the ball overhand slightly longer than is usually allowed. The hands must be held with fingers up, i.e.: not inverted to point downwards.
Misconduct sanction fee scale	Swatch-FIVB World Tour specific regulation establishing the fines to be issued in case players abusing court equipment or officials (this is to be enforced in due accordance to sanctions issued by the 1st referee during the match).
Nature of the fault	What type of error has occurred or what has happened. The referee may signal what has happened, e.g.: ball in.

Net	The piece of equipment consisting of many small square meshes hung between two posts that separate the two sides of the court. Dimensions are 8.5 x 1 metre.
Net area	The area immediately below the bottom of the net between the posts. It consists of the playing surface and imaginary space above it.
Normal playing conditions	Playing conditions which are free from external interference from weather (e.g.: wind, rain). Generally based on whether players can accurately hand set the ball.
Number paddles	The equipment used by the scorer to indicate the player to serve next (i.e.: service order of the team now serving). Located on Scorer's Table. #1 and #2
Offensive player (attacking player)	The player(s) from the team who currently have committed the last contact. The player(s) on the same side of the court as the ball.
Overhand finger action	The playing action of setting the ball or passing the ball with 2 hands fingers spread, contacting the ball.  It is not legal to carry the ball with underhand finger action (i.e.: wrists inverted)
Padding	Protective equipment located on the net posts and referee's chair for the protection of the players.
Perpendicular trajectory	A ball that travels in a straight line from the player's shoulders either forwards or backwards. The player's position at the time of first contact determines the trajectory the ball should legally follow.
Player's uniforms	The player's personnel apparel covering the body. Includes shirt, shorts and optional cap. Applied under FIVB Uniform regulations.
Playing Court	The area bounded by the court lines. A rectangle measuring 16 x 8 metres. The lines are included in this area and the ball is therefore considered "in" if it touches the line.
Point of contact (instant of contact)	The moment that a player first contacts the ball. Initial contact time or time of contacting.
Protocol	The time from the end of the previous match to the commencement of the next match. Applied under FIVB Protocol Regulations and specific Tournament regulations
Protest (see Protest Protocol)	The action of requesting a Protest Protocol. Made if a player wishes to formally question a decision of a referee. Applied under FIVB Protest Protocol Regulations.
Rain	Weather condition involving moisture or precipitation. If strong and normal playing conditions are not possible may result in play being suspended.
Rally	The time that the ball is legally in play, from the contact with the ball by the server, to the time of a fault by either team or when the ball hits the ground.
Replay (tie ball)	When the referee authorizes a service to be made again with no point or sideout being made to either team. This could be as a result of e.g.: simultaneous fault, incorrect decision or external interference.

Roll shot	Legal technique using rigid, closed fingers in an overhead single hand action to complete an attack hit. Usually travels a short distance into the opponent's court.
Rubber booties / sand-shoes / socks	Personal player's equipment for protection of their feet. Usually used if sand is too hot / cold or player is injured. Requires the referee's permission before use.
Sand	The material composing the court surface. Must be flat, uniform, and safe for participants and at least 40cm in depth.
Sand Anchors	The device, which secures the lines by use of a cord to the court, surface (50 cm below the ground minimum). Material must be soft and flexible.
Sand Levellers (rakers)	Auxiliary officials responsible for keeping the court surface in good condition.
Screen	The action of preventing the player(s) receiving service from having a clear and unobstructed view of the serving player. A screen is illegal and a screening player must move if requested to move.
Service order	The order in which players can legally serve. Recorded on the score sheet after the coin toss has been made. Must be maintained throughout the match.
Service Zone	The area in which the player serves the ball. Bounded by the base (back line), the extension of the two sidelines and the outside of the free zone (usually delimited by panels).
Service reception positions	The positions that the team receiving service adopts prior to the referee authorizing service. Usually in the middle of each side of the playing court.
Spike	The play action of jumping and striking with one hand the ball as an attack hit.
Sun (Sunlight / Light)	Weather condition essential for play. Light must be a minimum of 1000 Lux.
Sunglasses	Player's personnel equipment for protection from weather and sand in the eyes.
Supervisor	Official(s) with responsibility to run the tournament.  Two types (Jobs defined by FIVB World Tour Handbook): - Technical Supervisor (responsibility for Technical matters /overall responsibility) - Refereeing Delegate (responsibility for Refereeing matters).
Tarp	A large material cover for protecting the surface of the court from weather conditions. Usually 16 x 8 m minimum size.
Technical Timeout	An official 30 second interruption to the match that occurs in sets 1 and 2 when the sum of both teams points is 21.
Time of contact	The duration that the ball was in contact with a player hands in completing a shot.
Timeout	A 30-second match interval requested by a player. Maximum of 1 per set per team. Must be approved by the officials.
Tip / Dink	Illegal technique using open fingers (spread fingertips) to complete an attack hit.

Toss	The action of releasing the ball from the players hands in the service zone with the intention of hitting a service.
Towels	Equipment used by players for drying or cleaning their body. Equipment used by officials for drying or cleaning the match balls. Comes in various sizes.
Umbrella	Equipment for protection from the weather esp. sun. Located in players' designated areas and behind the scorer's table.
Warm up Period (Official warm up)	The time before the match officially allocated for teams to prepare on the court for the match. Commences at the whistle (signal) of the 1 <sup>st</sup> referee after the signing of the score sheet. Applied under FIVB Protocol regulations.
Water bucket	Equipment used for storage of water. May be used in case of injury or for court watering.
Watering the Court	The action of spreading water over the playing court and free zone for the purpose of lowering the surface temperate of the sand. Usually done prior to the start of the match.
Wind	Weather condition. Strength should be low enough to enable normal playing conditions.
5 minute recovery period (Injury Timeout)	The time allowed for the player to recover from an injury. Controlled by the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Referee. Applied under FIVB Medical Injury Protocol.