



# **RULES OF THE GAME VOLLEYBALL CASEBOOK**

2020 Edition

Compiled and Prepared  
by the FIVB Refereeing and Rules of the Game Commission

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Volleyball is a great game – just ask the millions of people who play it, watch it, analyze it and referee it. It has been actively promoted in recent years and has developed tremendously as a top competitive sport. Increased excitement, speed, explosive action, a clean healthy image and huge TV audience figures have created an impetus to develop the game even further, to make it simpler and more attractive to an even wider range of viewing public.

However, to make a correct and uniform application of these rules on a world stage is also very important for the further development of the game. This Casebook is a collection of plays with Official Rulings approved by the Refereeing and Rules of the Game Commission and based upon the most up-to-date edition of the Rules. These rulings expand on and clarify the spirit and meaning of the Official Rules, and are the official interpretations to be followed during all competitions.

This Casebook is based upon the 2017-2020 edition of the Rule Text whose mandate was approved by the FIVB Congress at Buenos Aires (ARG), in October 2016.

Several cases appearing in this Casebook have been illustrated with video shots, helping the understanding of the situations and making the cases more interesting and attractive. These cases are indicated at the description. Click where indicated and you can watch the video.

The videos shown in this document are the product of Volleyball game actions and they are extracted with the sole illustrative purpose of providing real in-match cases to assist in the learning process for all Volleyball Referees worldwide. The cases selected are not designed to be a commentary on the performance of the individual involved in any way but, rather, are being used as a teaching tool for the benefit of all Volleyball Referees.

We thank those involved for their understanding and support.

Guillermo Paredes  
President, FIVB Refereeing and Rules of the Game Commission

**RELEVANT MODIFICATIONS BETWEEN 2018 and 2020 VERSION WITH THE REFERENCE TO THE ACTUAL NUMBERING**

1.10	modified
1.12	modified
1.13	modified
1.13.1	new
1.13.2	new
1.15	modified
1.16	new
2.4	modified
3.11.1	new
3.11.2	new
3.13	modified
3.18	modified
3.26.	modified
3.26.2	new
3.26.3	new
3.29.	modified
3.31	deleted
3.32	re-numbered to 3.31
3.32.1	re-numbered to 3.32
3.33	modified
3.34	deleted
3.35 – 3.48	re-numbered to 3.34 – 3.48
3.36	modified
3.49	new
3.50	new
3.51	new
3.52	new
3.53	new
4.1	modified
4.3	former deleted new
4.4	modified
4.13	modified
4.36	modified
4.39	modified
4.42	new
5.11	former deleted new
6.5 + 6.10	combined into 6.5
7.6	modified
7.8	modified
8.5	modified
8.6	new
9.4	modified
9.13	new
9.14	new
9.15	new
10.4	deleted
10.5 – 10.8	re-numbered to 10.4 – 10.7

## **PART I - THEORETICAL PRINCIPLES OF APPLICATION**

The referee is the one who puts the rules into practice. For the correct application of the rules, the referees have to know the rules faultlessly and apply them decisively and correctly within the context of the game. Rule 23.2.3 states, “The referee has the power to decide any matter involving the game, including those not provided for in the rules”. Only on the basis of full acquisition of the fundamental principles of formulation and application of the rules can this be done.

Remember the referee stays in the background but at the same time acts to promote the game in the best light, and in this way the game is attractive to a wider audience.

We want the game to be popular – making an attractive show is the way to do that.

### **THE RULES FOR THE CASEBOOK 2020 EDITION**

The 2020 Casebook is a reflection of the rules, which were put into effect by the 2016 and 2018 FIVB Congresses respectively. While other rules and philosophical changes are always likely to be considered, as a sport and its society changes, it is worth remembering that the rulings shown here are those relating to the rules in force *today*.

A special chapter (Chapter 10) has been included, as the FIVB now uses, electronic devices for top competition (tablets, headsets, etc.)

In the appendix, the case numbers are listed together with the corresponding rules.

The case numbers are linked with the cases.

## PART II - CASES

### CHAPTER 1 – PARTICIPANTS

#### WEARING FORBIDDEN OBJECTS

<p><b>1.1</b> A prosthetic leg, a leg support, a plaster cast for a damaged wrist. Is such a device allowed?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Some yes – provided that the device will not cause undue risk to the player or the other players in the game, or in the case of the forearm support will not provide additional control of the ball. However, the rules allow a player to wear compression devices for injury protection, as prescribed by Rule 4.5.3.</p> <p><b>Rules 4.5.1, 4.5.3</b></p>
<p><b>1.2</b> Is a player allowed to play wearing a ring which is likely to cause injury?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Due to the risk of injury, a player must remove the ring, or have it taped.</p> <p><b>Rule 4.5.1</b></p>

#### CAPTAIN

<p><b>1.3</b> What is the proper response by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee if a game captain constantly questions 1<sup>st</sup> referee decisions?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Beyond the limits of <b>Rule 5.1.2</b>, he or she should warn the game captain with no penalty, as stated in <b>Rule 21.1</b>. If the behaviour continues, the game captain should be sanctioned for rude conduct with a red card (point and service to the opponents).</p> <p><b>Rules 5.1.2, 20.1, 20.2, 21.2, 21.3.1, Diagram 9</b></p>
<p><b>1.4 VIDEO</b> The game captain asked the 1<sup>st</sup> referee for a line-up check. Is this allowed?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes. However, the right to make this request may not be abused by a team, and only detailed information about his/her own team may be provided. For the opponent team the only information that will be provided will be whether or not the players are correctly positioned. No information will be given about which players are front or back row players.</p> <p><b>Rule 5.1.2.2</b></p>
<p><b>1.5</b> How does the game captain legally and politely request the 1<sup>st</sup> referee to ask a line judge if he signalled a fault?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> At the end of the rally, the game captain may raise one hand to request an explanation for the interpretation of the judgment. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee must honour the request.</p> <p><b>Rules 5.1.2.1, 20.2.1</b></p>
<p><b>1.6</b> Is the referee's decision final? May he/she change his/her own decision if the team protests?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes. The referee may change his/her own decision if he/she became aware of his/her mistake before the</p>

	<p>next service.</p> <p>On the other hand, the teams are not allowed to protest against normal referee decisions.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 5.1.2.1, 23.2.4</b></p>
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## COACH, ASSISTANT COACH

<p><b>1.7 VIDEO</b></p> <p>Are communication devices allowed for the coaches during the game?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>The use of such devices is allowed.</p>
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<p><b>1.8 VIDEO</b></p> <p>Are coaches permitted to talk to the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee during the match about decisions or protests?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>Only the game captain is authorized to speak to the referees to request explanations. The coach is not authorized to do so.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 5.1.2, 5.2.3.4, 21.1, 21.2, 21.3</b></p>
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<p><b>1.9</b></p> <p>May the assistant coach or player press the buzzer for T/O?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>Yes – but the coach must still give the official hand signal, even if tablets are in use to make such requests.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 5.2.1, 5.2.3.3, 5.3.1</b></p>
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<p><b>1.10 VIDEO</b></p> <p>Where may the coach move during the match?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>The coach, and only the coach, has the right to walk in the free zone during the match between the extension of the attack line and the warm-up area without disturbing the game and the work of the line judge/2<sup>nd</sup> referee.</p> <p>The referees may need to remind him/her regarding this requirement. If the coach consistently ignores the referees' reminders to be between those limits, he/she may be warned.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 5.2.3.4</b></p>
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<p><b>1.11</b></p> <p>If injured or disabled, can the coach be allowed to use crutches in the free zone to perform his/her duties during the match?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>To stand or walk with crutches is not forbidden for the coach.</p>
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<p><b>1.12 VIDEO</b></p> <p>Is it allowed for the coach or assistant coach to assist the players warming up with balls during the interval between sets in the free zone?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>No. These persons have the right to do it solely during the official warming up before the match. Only the players have the right to warm up in the free zone between sets. During the intervals the coaches may give instructions to the players. The referees should instruct the coach or assistant coach in a polite way to return to the team's bench.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 4.2.4, 5.3.1</b></p>
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<p><b>1.13 VIDEO</b></p> <p>Is it allowed that during the warming up any person from the team's officials stay in the opponent free zone or court?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>The situation may be different depending on the position of the person and the procedure of the warming up session.</p>
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	<p>In case of common official warming-up at the net the general principle is, that the warm-up can be practised solely in the team's OWN playing area.</p> <p>However, it is allowed for the officials appearing on the team list to be close to the posts in order to avoid that a ball dropping down from the net can create a dangerous situation for the players. The person in the opponent's playing area has no right to disturb the opponent's warming up.</p> <p>But to stay far from the net (i.e. behind the end line of the opponent) and collect the balls or actively participate in the warming up is forbidden.</p> <p>The referees should instruct the person in a polite way to leave the opponent's free zone and return to his/her own half of playing area or to be close to the post.</p> <p>In case of separate official warming up the entire playing area may be used by the team actually warming with the balls at the net. The other team can use the free zone behind its own court, without disturbing the team at the net.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Guidelines and Instructions....</b></p>
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<p><b>1.13.1 new</b></p> <p>In the women's World Cup, an extra assistant coach/ team official was observed serving the ball to specific players inside the court during the warm up. The Technical Delegate requested the referees to stop this activity?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>Correct action.</p> <p>The rule stipulates, that only the five officials on the bench may take part in the official warm up. Generally, the official warm up means the warming up at the net, Extra persons who are not on the O2bis or other team officials (e.g. team manager) have no right to take part neither during the non official warming up, nor during the official warming up at the net. Only the physiotherapist if not amongst the 5 officials on the bench, may assist with the warm up, but only until the start of the official (net) warm up.</p> <p>The referees should bring this sort of activity to the notice of the Game TD. The Game TD was correct to stop this, as it is an attempt to circumvent the rule.</p> <p><u>Note:</u> in some special competitions, as e.g. World Cup the start of official warm up is determined by the Protocol before the match.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Rule 4.1.1</p>
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<p><b>1.13.2 new VIDEO</b></p> <p>Coaches were observed on the opponent's side of the court serving or spiking balls towards members of their own team. Should this be permitted?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>No.</p> <p>No, this is an abuse of the rule which permits sharing the net during the warm up. The coaches and any assisting players must be politely but firmly instructed to conduct this activity (with accompanying materials) from their own side of the net to avoid conflict with opponents or potential injuries.</p> <p>However, it is allowed for the officials appearing on the team list to be close to the posts in order to avoid that a ball dropping down from the net can create a dangerous situation for the players.</p>
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## THE UNIFORM

<p><b>1.14 VIDEO</b> During the Men's World Cup, a team had 2 players, who wore jerseys with number 21 and 22 respectively. Is it allowed?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> For normal matches the rules allow to number the players up to 20. However, in FIVB, World and Official Competitions for Seniors, which includes the World Cup, it is permitted to wear numbers greater than 20. The actual competition regulation should determine the upper limit of players' numbers.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 4.3.3.</b></p>
<p><b>1.15 VIDEO</b> A team had several players wearing compression pads. Some of these pads were black, some white. Is it allowed to wear different colored compression pads?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> For FIVB, World and Official competitions for Seniors these devices must be of the same colour as the corresponding part of the uniform, but the black, white and neutral colours are accepted. However if teams are using compression pads, they must be uniform in colour /design for all the players. During FIVB World and Official Competitions the referees must control this and inform of any violation to the FIVB Technical Delegate who is the person entitled to take the final decision on this matter. However, for competitions not listed above, the rule says nothing about the uniformity of the colour of the compression pads used by multiple players.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 4.5.3. FIVB Event Regulations</b></p>
<p><b>1.16 new</b> Several team members during the general warm up wore garments over their official uniform or instead of their uniform. It was noticed that because no numbers were visible, this prevented proper confirmation that the players on court matched the ID cards presented. Should this be permitted?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The principle is, that all players should be in uniform from the moment they enter the court to warm up. In some top events the current Protocol before the match is conducted by a specialist Presentation team. In these cases, the regulation might be different. The referees should be well informed about this item.</p>

**POSITIONAL AND ROTATIONAL FAULTS**

<p><b>2.1</b> The team's setter from position 1 was standing clearly in front of player position 2, but jumped at the moment before the service hit. Is this a legal position?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Fault. When players jump from the floor, they retain the position that they had from their last contact with the floor. Therefore, while the back row player was in the air, the point of his last contact with the floor was retained.  <b>Rules 7.4, 7.4.2, 7.4.3</b></p>
<p><b>2.2</b> The centre back player had a hand on the floor clearly in front of the feet of his front row player at the time the ball was contacted for service. He/she had both feet behind the front foot of the centre front player. Is this a legal position for the receiving team?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Legal position. Only the feet which are in contact with the floor are considered when determining whether players make a positional fault. (except for the situation in case 2.1)  <b>Rules 7.4.3, 7.5</b></p>
<p><b>2.3</b> If the foot of a player on court is in contact with the opponent court at the service hit, is this a fault?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> No. This situation should only be considered when a player penetrates into the opponent's court over the center line during the rally.  <b>Rules 1.3.3, 7.4</b></p>
<p><b>2.4</b> A team was given incorrect information about which player was to serve. Play continued. This incorrect information was noticed at a later point in the set. What happens now?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The teams must revert to as close to their original line-up as possible. The score reverts to the point where the wrong information was given. The correct server is allowed to serve. The requested T/Os, the applied T/Os and the already issued warnings/sanctions remain valid regardless that these were given during the part of the game played with wrong information. This event must be recorded on the score sheet.</p>
<p><b>2.5 VIDEO</b> The teams were not ready to play because five (5) or seven (7) players were on court when the 1<sup>st</sup> referee was ready to whistle for service.  What should have occurred?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The 1<sup>st</sup> referee should whistle for service when he/she is sure that the teams are ready to play and that the server is in possession of the ball. There must always be 6 players per team in play. Because the 1<sup>st</sup> referee noticed the mistake <i>before</i> he/she whistled for service, he/she must award a delay sanction to the team at fault. The next team to serve depends on the <u>type of delay sanction</u>. But if the 1<sup>st</sup> referee still whistled for service when only 5 or 7 players were on court, he/she must stop the rally immediately and replay without any sanction. If the situation is discovered after the end of the next rally, the result of this rally should be cancelled and replayed without any sanction.</p>

	<p>If nobody discovered the situation, or did so after the start of the next rally, the rally played with 5 (or 7) players of a team cannot be replayed.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 7.3.1., 7.5, 12.3, 12.4.3</b></p>
<p><b>2.6.</b> After a service, which was executed by the wrong server, the ball went out. When the rally was finished, the scorer signalled the rotational fault. How many points do the receiving team receive?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Only a single point should be awarded, due to the rotational fault, regardless of which team “won” the rally.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 7.7.1.1</b></p>
<p><b>2.7</b>    <b><u>VIDEO</u></b> If the foot of a player on court is in contact with the free zone at the service hit, is this a fault?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes, fault, because in the moment of the service hit all players except the server must be within their own court. Consequently, it is a fault for a player on court to be in contact with the free zone in the moment of service.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 1.3.3, 7.4</b></p>

PLAYING THE BALL

<p><b>3.1</b> The 1<sup>st</sup> hit flew outside of the antenna. The setter pursued the ball into the opponent’s free zone and tried to play it back – but the ball went towards the court and net on the opponent’s side. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee whistled and signalled “ball out”. At what moment does the ball become “out”?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> This ball had become “out” when it had left completely the space above the free zone and entered the space above the court on the opponent’s side of the net.  <b>Rules 10.1.2, 10.1.2.2</b></p>
<p><b>3.2</b> Can a player legally hit the ball with the palm of one hand up?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes, he can. The hit must be judged by the quality of the ball contact – i.e. is it a soft or hard rebound or whether or not the ball was caught and/or thrown. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee must not be too hasty in whistling this play unless he can clearly see that the ball is caught and/or thrown.  <b>Rules 9.2.1, 9.2.2, 9.3.3, 9.3.4</b></p>
<p><b>3.3</b> During a first hit the ball rebounded from one arm to the other and then onto the chest of a player during one action and without being caught or thrown. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee allowed the game to continue. Is this correct?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The decision of the 1<sup>st</sup> referee was correct. “First hit” cases, in which successive contacts are allowed, are: 1. Reception of the service. 2. Reception of an attack hit. This can be either a soft or a hard attack. 3. Reception of a ball blocked by one’s own team. 4. Reception of a ball blocked by the opponent. A player has the right to make successive contacts <i>at the first hit</i>, so long as he/she makes only <b>one action to play the ball</b>. It is possible, however, to whistle a “catch” or “throw” on the first hit if two different phases (first catch, then throw) are recognised within the action. <b>Rules 9.2.3.2, 14.2, Refereeing Guidelines and Instructions</b></p>
<p><b>3.4</b> A blocker “redirected” the ball to the floor of the opponents. Is this legal?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> This depends on whether the ball is caught or thrown (fault) rather than rebounding (no fault). It is legal to block the ball and <b>direct</b> it back to the opponent’s court, but the illegal contact of “catch” can be whistled during blocking.  <b>Rule 9.2.2</b></p>

<p><b>3.5 VIDEO VIDEO</b> A player jumped into the air trying to retrieve the ball near the spectator seats on his own side of the net. After contacting the ball, he landed in the seats. Is this a legal action?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Legal play. Outside his/her <b>own side of the free zone</b>, a player is allowed to play a ball and even take support to hit the ball. This would include his/her own team bench since this is outside the free zone. The same action is forbidden on the opponent's side of the net.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 9, 9.1.3, 10.1.2</b></p>
<p><b>3.6 VIDEO</b> During a rally, a player chased the ball into the spectator stands. Just as she was about to hit the ball, a spectator reached up to catch the ball. The coach requested a replay because of the spectator's interference. The referee refused. Was this a correct decision of the 1<sup>st</sup> referee?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes. The player is allowed to retrieve the ball from anywhere outside her own side of the playing area, including the team bench/ spectator seats, etc. On the other hand, while the player <b>has priority</b> for the ball within the playing area, she <b>has no such priority</b> outside of the playing area.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules9, 9.1.3</b></p>
<p><b>3.7</b> Must the 1<sup>st</sup> referee whistle for a handling fault if the player is making a <b>spectacular</b> recovery?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The referee should consider the principle of "keep the ball flying". It means, if a player makes a quick movement and a big effort to recover the ball, and during the hit a slight double contact has occurred, he/she must be less severe, than in a normal situation</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Refereeing Guidelines and Instructions Rule 9.point 7.</b></p>
<p><b>3.8</b> A ball went off the blocker A's head, over the antenna into the free zone of 'B'. A player of 'A' pursued the ball to play it back to his side of the net. Is it possible to play it back like this?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes. The ball passed over the antenna into the <b>opponent's</b> free zone partially through the external space. Therefore, it was legal for team 'A' to return the ball to its own court through the external space on the same side of the court. Line judges should not signal while the ball moves in this way until the moment it is finally out of play.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 10.1.2</b></p>
<p><b>3.9</b> Should the line judge signal when after the <b>second hit</b> of a team the ball crosses the net plane through the external space into the opponent's free zone?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> No, to judge this ball is not the duty of the line judge.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 8.4.1, 8.4.2, 9.1, 10.1.2, 10.1.2.1, 10.1.2.2</b></p>
<p><b>3.10</b> Team A's setter hit the ball above the net so that at the moment of the hit his/her fingers were in the opponent's space. After the set the ball flew parallel to the net toward an attacker. The blocker of team B touched the ball in team A's space, so that the team A player could not execute the attack hit. How should the 1<sup>st</sup> referee decide?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Each team must play the ball within its own playing area and space (except in the case of Rule 10.1.2). Above the top of the net, the position of the hand should be considered. Therefore, since the setter has hit the ball in the opponent's space, the setter committed a fault. The blocker also committed a fault by touching the ball in the opponent's space before the attack hit,</p>

	<p>because above the top of the net, the position of the hand should be considered.</p> <p>However, only the first fault is penalized.</p> <p>To hit the ball in the opponent's space under the net is different. Here the position of the ball should be counted, i.e. the play is illegal only if the ball has completely crossed the vertical plane of the net.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 9</b></p>
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<p><b>3.11 VIDEO</b></p> <p>May the coach standing in a legal position in his/her free zone catch the ball flying over the antenna, when an opponent player is running to replay it?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>No.</p> <p>Any team member, including the coach, has no right to prevent an opponent player from replaying the ball crossing the net plane outside the crossing space. It does not matter if the action of the team member to hit the ball was intentional or unintentional. It means, that the coach standing legally in his/her free zone must "give way" if an opponent player is running to replay and return the ball.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 10.1.2.2.</b></p>
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<p><b>3.11.1. (new) VIDEO</b></p> <p>After a bad reception of team B, the ball was flying outside the crossing space towards the opponent's free zone. A player from this team started to run, in order to replay the ball. He stepped under the net, without touching the opponent's court and the net, but due to an opponent player still within his own court also moving towards the ball, he was not able to replay the ball. Has the player of team B been interfered by the team A player?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>Each player has the right to stand and move freely in his own court and playing space. There are some limitations to play in opponent's court or playing space or in the free zone. Therefore, to decide about the eventual interference it is a crucial point, if the player of team A was within his own court or in the free zone.</p> <p>If he moved within <b>his</b> own court, his play was legal. On the other hand if he was in the free zone and his movement can be considered as an interference, he committed a fault.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 10.1.2.2</b></p>
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<p><b>3.11.2 (new) VIDEO</b></p> <p>The ball rebounded from the blocker of team A, hit the net and the side band on team B's side, then landed on the court. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee decided the action as a successful block and the next serving team is team A. Was it a correct decision?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>No.</p> <p>If the ball hits only the side band, the action is legal. But if the ball hits the antenna as well, it is already a fault.</p> <p>In practice if the hit into the side band/antenna changes the natural rebound (direction) of the ball, it is a clear indication that it has hit something solid, like the antenna, although in reality it has not "contacted" the antenna because the side band prevented the physical contact.</p> <p>Because the ball from the block touched the side band AND the antenna, no matter on blocker's side or attacker's side, it became OUT before it landed, i.e. the next service belongs to team B.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 6.1.1.2., 8.4.3</b></p>
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## PENETRATION UNDER THE NET

<p><b>3.12</b> A spiker landed with his heels on the centre line, but with most of his feet on the feet of the opponent's blocker preventing his ability to move. Is this interference?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes. This is interference. Interference means a player stops an opponent from moving, or playing the ball, or disturbing the opponent while attempting to play the ball.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 11.2.1, 11.2.2.1, 11.2.4</b></p>
<p><b>3.13</b> Is physical contact always interference?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> No, many contacts actually occur in a match - but the referee should whistle (e.g. 1st referee in case of reaching over the net, 2nd referee in case of penetration) a player if he/she interfered with or stopped the opponent's ability to play.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 11.2.1</b></p>
<p><b>3.14 VIDEO</b> During a spectacular dig a player penetrates into the opponent's court so, that his body hits the floor, but both legs are completely in the air over the opponent court with no part above the center line. There was no interference with the opponent players. Was it a faulty action?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> No. By the Rule 11.2.2 it is permitted to touch the opponent's court with a foot touching or being over the centre line or to touch with any part of the body above the foot (feet) provided there is no interference with the opponent's play. Since the feet did not touch the opponent's court and there was no interference with the opponent's play, the situation cannot be considered as a fault.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 11.2.2</b></p>

## PLAYER AT OR CONTACTING THE NET

<p><b>3.15 VIDEO</b> After a simultaneous contact above the plane of the net, the ball landed outside the court of team A. Who gets next service?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> If the contact is truly simultaneous by opponents exactly above the net, where both players have the right to play the ball and it lands outside a court, it is the fault of the team on the opposite side. Team A gets service.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 9.1.2.2, 9.1.2.3</b></p>
<p><b>3.16</b> An attack hit drove the net into the blocker's forearms. Is this a net fault?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> No. If the net hits the blocker, there is no fault.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 11.3.1, 11.4.4</b></p>
<p><b>3.17</b> After a blocker landed securely, he turned and hit the mesh of the net between the antennae with his shoulder. Should this have been called a fault?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> No. Because the action of playing the ball was complete before he turned, the contact with the net is not a fault.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 11.3.1, 11.4.4</b></p>

<p><b>3.18</b> The attacker from Team A hit the ball from position 4, as an opponent player brushed the net at the other side of the court in Team's A position 2. Is this a net fault?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> No fault. Contact with the net between the antennae during the action of playing the ball is a fault. The action of playing the ball includes (amongst others) takeoff, hit and landing safely, ready for a new action. If the player touching the net was in the action of playing the ball, and had effect on the play, he/she committed a fault. <b>Rule 11.3.1, 11.4.4</b></p>
<p><b>3.19 VIDEO</b> While attempting to block, but without touching the ball, which was close to him, the blocker touched the net. Is this a fault?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes – since this is “in the action” of playing or attempting to play the ball, even though no contact was made. <b>Rules 11.3.1, 11.4.4</b></p>
<p><b>3.20</b> A middle blocker reached over the net and touched its top band while attempting to stop a combination play close to him. Is this a fault?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes – the touch of the net was indeed a “net fault”: the blocker was close to the action, and the contact was between the antennae. <b>Rules 11.3.1, 11.4.4</b></p>
<p><b>3.21 VIDEO</b> An attacker landed securely on the floor then took two steps and brushed against the net outside of the antenna while the ball was still in play. Is this a fault?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> No the player did not commit a fault because: First:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the contact was outside the antenna</li> </ul> Then  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>he/she has already finished the action of playing the ball and was ready for a new action</li> <li>he/she did not use the net as support or stabilizing aid</li> </ul> <b>Rules 11.3.1, 11.3.2, 11.4.4</b></p>
<p><b>3.22</b> An attacker landed on the floor off balance, took two steps and pushed with his chest against the net between the antennae while the ball was still in play. If the player had not caught the net, he/she would have fallen onto the opponent’s court. Is this a fault?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes, if a player is using the net as a support or stabilizing aid, between the antennae, his/her action is considered as interference with the play. <b>Rules 11.3.1, 11.4.4</b></p>
<p><b>3.23</b> A setter made a short set and when the attacker hit the ball, he/she also hit the setter with his/her knee. This hit caused the setter to brush against the net. Is this a fault?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes, because the setter was in the action of playing the ball. <b>Rules 11.3.1, 11.4.4</b></p>
<p><b>3.24. VIDEO</b> A player hit the net with a foot while playing the ball. Was this action legal?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> No. This action is not legal.  The player touching the net was in the action of playing the ball, when she hit the net. The rule does</p>



	<p>not make any difference if the net is hit by arm, hand or foot.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 11.3.1, 11.4.4</b></p>
<p><b>3.25. VIDEO</b></p> <p>A player hit the net with her hair while playing the ball. Was her action legal?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>Yes. This must only be considered a fault if it is clear, that the net touch affected the opponent's ability to play the ball or it interrupted the rally (e.g. a pony-tail gets tangled in the net). If there was no interference either on the opponent's play, or on the rally, the referees must not stop the game.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 11.3.1, 11.4.4</b></p>
<p><b>3.26. VIDEO</b></p> <p>An attacker after spiking the ball hit the blockers hand which had reached over the net plane and drove it to touch the top band of the net. Was there any fault during this action?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>The blocker's net touch cannot be considered as a faulty one, because his action was modified by the attacker.</p> <p>However if the 1<sup>st</sup> referee realises that the attacker drove the opponent's hand into the net with a deliberate movement, the attacker made a fault by interfering with the opponent's play, which is not according to the spirit of FAIR PLAY. Therefore the attacker's action should be penalised, considered as rude conduct, with the application of the appropriate misconduct sanction.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 11.3.1, 20.2.1</b></p>
<p><b>3.26.1. VIDEO</b></p> <p>A player participating in a collective block already finished the blocking action and landed. However, the "blocking-mate" player during the landing fell down on the previous player and drove her into the net between the antennae. Can this net touch be considered as a faulty one?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>Yes.</p> <p>The players of a collective block are counted as a „unit“. If one of them is still in the action of playing of the ball, it means the entire unit is in the action. Therefore the other player's net touch should be considered as a fault.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 11.3.1</b></p>
<p><b>3.26.2 (new) VIDEO</b></p> <p>Is it allowed for a player to penetrate into the opponent's space under the net when although there is no physical contact with the opponent player, the opponent is shocked by it?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>It is allowed provided, that the opponent player is not interfered with, preventing him playing the ball.</p> <p>Interference may occur even if there is no physical contact between the players. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee has the right to stop the game due to the fault of the penetrating player and if necessary, to warn/sanction him.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 11.2.1</b></p>

<p><b>3.26.3 (new) VIDEO</b></p> <p>After a weak service reception of team B the ball went into net close to the sideband. A player of the team A in position 2 did a clear sideway movement towards the ball, hit it with high elevated forearms through the net. The opponent player was not able to play the ball due to the different rebounding from the net. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee whistled net fault by the player of team A. Was it a correct decision?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>Yes, it was a correct decision.</p> <p>It wouldn't be a fault, if the ball hits the player through the net in a situation, where the player standing close to the net is in a passive/neutral position without any movement towards the ball OR protect his/her face/body against a strongly spiked ball.</p> <p>But if the player moves towards the ball, „chasing“ it and deliberately hits it and changing the direction and/or the speed of the rebounding ball, it is not allowed.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 11.4.4</b></p>
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## SERVICE

<p><b>3.27</b></p> <p>As soon as a player had hit the ball for service, the scorer signalled “wrong server” or rotational fault to the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee, who stopped the game. Is this the correct action by the scorer?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>Correct action by the scorer. When a wrong server is ready to serve the ball, the scorer must wait until the service action has been completed before notifying the referees of the fault.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 7.7.1, 12.2.1, 12.7.1, 25.2.2.2</b></p>
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<p><b>3.28</b></p> <p>After the whistle for service, the serving team recognized it was the wrong server. The correct server then entered the service zone ready to serve. Can this player now serve?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>Yes – provided the service is made by the correct player within 8 seconds from the whistle for service. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee does not whistle a second time.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 12.4.4</b></p>
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<p><b>3.29 VIDEO</b></p> <p>The server threw the ball up high into the air with his back to the court. He/she then caught the ball and immediately served before the end of the 8 seconds allowed for service. Was this a legal action for the server?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>The action of the server was legal. During the service the ball must be hit with one hand or any part of the arm after being tossed or released from the hand(s). Any action considered by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee to be a “toss for service” must end with the ball being hit for the service.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 12.4.2</b></p>
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<p><b>3.30</b></p> <p>The served ball touched the net and the antenna on the 1<sup>st</sup> referee's side before being played by the receiving team. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee whistled for a service fault. Is this a correct decision by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>The decision of the 1<sup>st</sup> referee is correct. A ball touching the antenna is “out”.</p> <p>By the actual rules if this case occurs on the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee's side, the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee is bound to whistle the fault.</p> <p>If during the rally after the 3rd team hit the ball passes/hits the antenna, then the action is to whistle and the signal is also OUT.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 8.4.3, 23.3.2.3. i, 24.3.2.8., 27.2.1.3</b></p>
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<p><b>3.31. (3.32/2018)</b> Team 'A' served. The ball hit the net and dropped towards the floor on 'A''s side of the net. A player of 'B' reached under the net and caught the ball before it hit the floor. Is this allowed?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes – the 1<sup>st</sup> referee must whistle immediately if it is clear the ball will not cross the net through the crossing space. At this moment the ball is out of play. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee must not wait until the ball hits the floor or a player of the serving team.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 12.6.2.1</b></p>
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<p><b>3.32 (3.32.1/2018) . VIDEO</b> Is this allowed to execute the jump service hitting the ball with 2 hands?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> No, the rule determines, that during the service, no matter jump or on floor, the ball should be hit with one hand/arm, therefore to hit the ball with 2 hands is forbidden and faulty.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 12.4.1, 12.6.1.2</b></p>
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## ATTACK HIT

<p><b>3.33</b> A back row setter jumped from within the front zone and set the ball <b>while it was completely above the height of the net</b>, directing it towards an attacker. Before the attacker could contact the ball, it penetrated the vertical plane of the net where it was blocked by the opponent's setter. Was there a fault?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes. The set became an illegal attack hit by a back row player when the attack hit was completed (in this case by contacting the opponent's block). The rally is won by the blocking team.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 13.1.3</b></p>
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<p><b>3.34 (3.35/2018) VIDEO</b> On a second hit, a player passed the ball near the net towards the opponent's court. In the 1<sup>st</sup> referee's opinion, no player of 'A' could possibly reach the ball. The blocker of 'B' reached across the plane of the net and blocked the ball. What is the correct decision of the 1<sup>st</sup> referee?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Even though it was only the second team hit, if the ball is moving in the direction of the opponent's court, it is an attack hit. Because, in the referee's opinion, no player of 'A' could possibly have reached and was willing to play the ball, the block of 'B' was legal.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 13.1.1, 14.3, Guidelines 14.1</b></p>
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<p><b>3.35 (3.36/2018.)</b> A back row player took off in the front zone and as a <b>second hit</b> spiked the ball which was completely higher than the top of the net. The ball rebounded from the net band and did not cross to the opponent. Is this a fault?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> No. Since the ball neither crossed the plane of the net nor was contacted by the blocker, the attack hit was not completed. The rally continues.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 9.1, 13.1.3, 13.2.2, 13.3.3</b></p>
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<p><b>3.36. (3.37/2018)</b> 'A's' receiver jumped from behind the attack line and contacted the served ball from completely higher than the top of the net. The contact was behind the attack line and the ball returned to the serving team's side of the net. Should play continue?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes, because it was a legal action. Although it is illegal to block or to complete an attack on the service from completely above the height of the net over the front zone, the attack was legal since the contact point of the hit was completely behind the attack line.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 13.3.4, 19.3.1.3</b></p>
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## BLOCK

<p><b>3.37 (3.38/2018)</b> 'A' passed badly and the ball crossed the plane of the net. The middle blocker of 'B' hit the ball across the net against the raised arm of the back row setter from 'A', who was still close to the net and above the height of the net. The ball then rebounded across the net into 'B's' court. Who committed the fault?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The setter's "block" was illegal because he/she was a back row player. Intercepting a ball from opponent close to the net is a block if a part of the body is above net height.</p> <p><b>Rules 14.1.1, 14.1.3, 14.6.2</b></p>
<p><b>3.38 (3.39/2018)</b> Is it legal for a blocker to reach over the net to block an opponent's "setting" action?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> It is a fault to block a set. However, it is absolutely necessary for the 1<sup>st</sup>referee to determine the action of the setter. He/she must know whether the set was</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• made parallel to the net (block fault) or</li><li>• was going towards the net, thus making it an attack hit (no fault, if there is no setter's teammate close to the ball and willing to play it).</li></ul> <p><b>Rules 14.1.1, 14.3</b></p>
<p><b>3.39 (3.40/2018)</b> A player of 'A' blocked the attack of 'B'. Then the middle blocker of 'B' blocked the block of 'A'. Is it legal to block a blocked ball?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes, to block is to intercept a ball coming from the opponent, thus it is legal to block an opponent's block.</p> <p><b>Rule 14.1.1</b></p>
<p><b>3.40. (3.41/2018)</b> A ball was blocked straight down. Just before the ball landed on the opponent's floor, the ball slightly touched the penetrating foot on the ground of one of the blockers. The 1<sup>st</sup>referee ruled a successful block. Is this correct?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Correct ruling by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee this time.</p> <p><b>Rule 11.2.1</b></p>
<p><b>3.41 (3.42/2018)</b> A ball blocked by the legally penetrating blocker of team B flew some metres parallel to the net before a second player of B hit the ball with a blocking action down to the floor on the side of team 'A'. The ball had never penetrated into the air space of 'B'. Who gets next service?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Team A. The second player's action cannot be considered as block, because the ball was coming from the block of his/her teammate. Thus, he/she was attacking in the opponent's space - which is a fault according to the rules.</p> <p><b>Rules 11.1.2, 14.1.1, 14.2, 14.3</b></p>
<p><b>3.42 (3.43/2018)</b> Can an attacker hit the ball coming from the reception of his/her teammate with both hands using a blocking action, directing the ball to the other side of the net?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> It is a legal play, provided it is not a double contact or a catch or throw. The contact must be on the player's own side of the net, however – not on the opponent's.</p>

<p><b>3.43 (3.44/2018)</b> The ball made multiple contacts with the head and hands of several blockers. Should this be permitted?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Provided it is a blocking action and not separate actions, this counts as one block contact. After the block, a team is allowed three more ball contacts.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 9.1, 14.2, 14.4.1</b></p>
<p><b>3.44 (3.45/2018)</b> Back row player's illegal attack versus illegal block (simultaneous contact) in the attacker's team space. What is the fault?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Double fault and therefore replay. The attack hit by the back row player was illegal. The simultaneous block by the blocker was also illegal, because the hit was done in <b><u>the attacker's team space</u></b>.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 13.3.1,13.3.3, 14.1.1,14.6.1, 14.6.2</b></p>
<p><b>3.45 (3.46 /2018)</b> A back row player is separate in distance from a collective block and lower than the top of the net – but is hit by the ball. Is this an illegal block?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> No. The player was not part of the collective block and was not higher than the top of the net when the ball contacted him/her. Therefore, he/she cannot be a blocker. This contact is considered as a first team hit.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 9.3.1, 14.1.1</b></p>
<p><b>3.46 (3.47/2018)</b> The contact with the ball by a blocker was lower than the top of the net, although part of his/her hand was above the net. Is this a block?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes – having part of the body above the net is critical; the team would, therefore, have three more hits.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 9.1, 14.1.1, 14.4.1</b></p>
<p><b>3.47 (3.48/2018)</b> A blocker hit the ball when he had already come down from his jump and his whole body was lower than the top of the net. When he hit the ball again, the referee called a “double hit”. Was this correct?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The decision was correct. At the moment of the ball contact, no part of the body of the blocker was higher than the top of the net. So the action could not be considered as a block, but the first contact of the team and his later contact made this a double hit.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 9.1, 14.1.1, 14.4.1</b></p>
<p><b>3.48 (3.49/2018)</b> Illegal attack hit by back row player versus attempted Libero block- which occurs first?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The attack hit <b>becomes</b> a mistake at the moment when the ball has crossed the net totally or the block touched it. The attempt of the Libero to block was an action <b>before</b> the completion of the opponent's attack hit and is therefore the first mistake.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 19.3.1.3</b></p>
<p><b>3.49 (new) VIDEO</b> A player of the team A attacked the ball, which was blocked by the blocker of team B. After the block hit, the ball crossed the lower space (i.e. under the net) and landed on the court of the team B. Which team won the rally?</p>	<p><b>Ruling:</b> It should be considered as a perfect block, the rally has been won by the team B.</p>

<p><b>3.50 (new) VIDEO</b></p> <p>An attacker spiked the ball OUT, but the blocker's pony tail hit the ball. The hit was proved by the video challenge footage. The 1st referee decided „touched ball” and the next service to the attacking team. Was this decision correct?</p>	<p><b>Ruling:</b></p> <p>No.</p> <p>The net touch by hair is not considered as a fault, unless this net touch has influence on the game. Keeping consistency to this approach, the touch by blocker's hair is not counted as a touch. The rally would have to be won by the defending team.</p>
<p><b>3.51 (new) VIDEO</b></p> <p>The ball rebounded high from the opponent block of the team A, then returned to the opponent space. There a player close to the net, reaching over the top of the net, hit the ball, which rebounded from the top band and the same player hit it again. Is this a legal play?</p>	<p><b>Ruling:</b></p> <p>Yes, the 1<sup>st</sup> referee made a good decision for allowing the rally continue.</p> <p>If a player, close to the net and reaching over the top of the net, hits the ball coming from the opponent, the action might be either block or attack hit. During the judgment, the position of the player's hand(s) or other part of body should be counted, but the height of the ball is irrelevant.</p> <p>The player's hit is considered as a “block”, if the player stretches reaching over the net to intercept the ball with one or two hands without a classical spiking/backswing movement (refer case 3.54).</p> <p>Based on the above interpretation the situation illustrated by the video should be considered as a blocking, legal action.</p>
<p><b>3.52 (new) VIDEO</b></p> <p>A ball was blocked straight down. Before the ball landed on the opponent's floor, the ball touched the leg of the middle blocker, who was already standing on the floor without the intention of kicking the ball. If there was no leg hit, the ball would have landed clearly on the floor on team B's side. Can the middle blocker's leg touch be considered as an interference to the opponent's play?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>No.</p> <p>Because the middle blocker's leg touch was unintentional and he already stood on the floor, he made no mistake.</p> <p>However if the contact was well above the floor, and there was an opponent player with a potential play on the ball, then this is interference.</p>
<p><b>3.53 (new) VIDEO</b></p> <p>A back row setter facing towards his own end line jumped close to the net when the attacked ball from the opponent hit his head. Can this action be considered as an illegal block?</p>	<p><b>Ruling:</b></p> <p>To consider that an action is a block 3 conditions should be fulfilled simultaneously:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the player is close to the net</li> <li>- the ball is coming from the opponent</li> <li>- the player has some part of his body projecting above the top of the net.</li> </ul> <p>It is not relevant which direction the player is facing. If the referee judges that the 3 conditions have been fulfilled, the action was a block.</p>
<p><b>3.54 (new) VIDEO</b></p> <p>A player of team B sent the ball slightly to the opponent. A player of team A close to the net, reaching over the top of the net, hit the ball, which rebounded from the top band and the same player hits it again. Had the 1<sup>st</sup> referee a good decision allowing the rally to continue?</p>	<p><b>Ruling:</b></p> <p>No.</p> <p>The situation is similar, but still different to the case 3.51.</p> <p>If a player, close to the net and reaching over the top of the net, hits the ball coming from the opponent, the action might be either block or attack hit. During</p>

the judgment, the position of the player's hand(s) or other part of body should be counted, but the height of the ball is irrelevant.

The player's hit is considered as an attack, i.e. first team hit, if the player uses a classical spiking/backswing movement of the arm as on video shown, then hits the ball directing it towards the opponent.

Therefore, if the player for this first hit executes an attack "spike", then hits again the ball rebounding from the net, he/ she commits a "double hit" fault.

Based on the above interpretation the situation illustrated by the video should be considered as a "double hit", faulty action. The rally should immediately be stopped and won by team B.

**SUBSTITUTIONS**

<p><b>4.1 VIDEO</b> Two substitute players entered the substitution zone. After the request was recognized and acknowledged by the scorer, the coach decided to make only one substitution. What is the procedure for the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> This is legal as long as this does not cause a delay. Therefore, the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee simply carries out one substitution. The scorer is responsible for recording only substitutions which actually take place. In such a case, the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee should carefully check how many substitutions were recorded in the score sheet, regardless of whether a paper or an electronic one is used.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 15.10.2, 15.10.3a, 15.10.4, 16.1</b></p>
<p><b>4.2</b> One substitute player entered the substitution zone (the scorer sounded the horn) while another one was just leaving the warm-up area to try to enter the substitution zone. How many substitutions should be allowed under the current rules?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The moment of the request is the entrance of the substitute player(s) into the substitution zone. In this case the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee should grant only the one for the player who actually entered the substitution zone. The second action should be rejected as not a part of the original request. However, in such a situation the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee has the right to wave away the player trying to enter the substitution in order to prevent an improper request. With such action the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee understood very well what is meant by the "art of refereeing".</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 15.10.3a, 15.10.3b, 15.11.1.3</b></p>
<p><b>4.3 (new) VIDEO</b> A rally had to be interrupted due to the injury of a player of team A. After a short therapy on court the injured player was judged ready to play. Before the whistle for the next service, team A requested a substitution. Is it allowed?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> If a rally has been interrupted due to an injury, or an external interference, for example a ball rolling onto the court, the net has been broken, failure of electricity, etc., it is improper to request any regular game interruption, except a forced substitution for an injured or sanctioned player.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Refereeing Guidelines Rule 6 and 15.8</b></p>
<p><b>4.4</b> The substitute player had entered the substitution zone with the wrong "numbered paddle" (e.g. own paddle) for substitution. He fumbled to get the correct one. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee awarded a delay sanction, but allowed the substitution. Is this the correct response by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Not correct. In competitions where numbered paddles are in use, the substitute player must enter the substitution zone with the correct paddle. To do otherwise causes confusion for the scorer, the team and the public – and will likely create a delay. Thus, the request for substitution by the team must be rejected, and a delay sanction must be awarded.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 15.10.3c, 16.1.1, 16.2</b></p>



<p><b>4.5</b> If a substitute steps into the substitution zone just as the whistle sounds for service, should the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee permit the substitution?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Generally, this situation is a typical case of an improper request: reject and allow the game to continue if the game has not been stopped and it was the first improper request for this team. However, if the game has been stopped due to this request (the player on court goes to the substitution zone or the teams wait for the referee's decision, etc...) it should be considered as a delay. The rally should be interrupted by the whistle, the substitution should not be granted, and a sanction for delay will result. The same procedure should be followed if it was a repeated improper request by this team - which is considered as delay. <b>Rules 15.10.3a, 15.11.1.1, 15.11.3, 16.2</b></p>
<p><b>4.6</b> Player #8 entered the substitution zone with paddle #10. The coach insisted on the substitution with #9. After a short discussion, the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee rejected the substitution and the team was sanctioned with a delay warning. Was the decision correct?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The decision was correct. The substitution of #8 and #10 would have been legal. However, the coach insisted on the substitution of #8 for #9. Because the wrong paddle was shown and this caused a delay, the referee correctly sanctioned the team for delay. Substitution should be rejected. <b>Rules 16.1.1, 16.2</b></p>
<p><b>4.7</b> A player became injured and <b>had to be</b> substituted exceptionally. During the same game interruption, the team <b>requested</b> an additional substitution. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee accepted the request. Was the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee's decision correct to accept the request?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes, the decision was correct. The first player had to be substituted by an exceptional substitution due to injury. The team still had the right to REQUEST a substitution in the same interruption. <b>Rule 15.7</b></p>
<p><b>4.8.</b> Player #6 of team 'A' was disqualified from the match, and legally substituted by #7. This was the first substitution for team 'A' during the set, and there were three more players on the bench. During the next rally, team 'A' player #7 became injured and was not able to continue to play. How should the game be continued?</p>	<p><b>Ruling:</b> Since the injured player #7 cannot be substituted legally, although this would be only the second substitution in the set for this team, he/she should be substituted exceptionally. <b>Rules 15.7,15.8</b></p>
<p><b>4.9</b> A player listed on the line-up sheet was injured before the start of the match. Can he be substituted before the match?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes – but it should be shown formally by substitution signal (coach <i>and</i> 2nd referee so that everyone understands the situation) and must be recorded on the score sheet as a regular substitution. <b>Rules 7.3.2, 7.3.4</b></p>

<p><b>4.10</b> Player #7 of team 'A' was found to be on the court when he should have been on the bench. Team 'A' had used the allowable six team substitutions. Since there were no legal substitutions remaining, what was the proper procedure to be used by the officials?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Since team 'A' had an incorrect line-up, which was caused by an illegal substitution, the procedure given in Rule 15.9.2 should be the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Point and service for team 'B'.</li> <li>The substitution must be rectified. #7 has to be removed from the set and the correct player must return to the court. This correction does not count as regular substitution.</li> <li>All points scored by team 'A' while #7 was in the game illegally must be cancelled, but the score of the opponent's team will remain as it is.</li> <li>There is no further penalty for team 'A'.</li> </ol> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 15.9.2</b></p>
<p><b>4.11</b> After team 'B' had used five substitutions, two substitute players entered the substitution zone. What is the proper response of the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee has to remind the coach that only one substitution will be possible and ask the coach which one will be made. Provided there is no delay, the other substitution will be rejected as an improper request which is marked in the score sheet.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 15.5, 15.6, 15.11, 16.1</b></p>
<p><b>4.12</b> A team requested two substitutions. When checking the substitutions, the scorer indicated that one of the requests for substitution was legal and the other request for substitution was illegal. What is the proper response of the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee allows the legal substitution to take place. The illegal substitution must be refused no matter in which order the substitute players approach the side line. The request for an illegal substitution must be sanctioned with a "delay sanction".</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 15.6, 16.1.3</b></p>
<p><b>4.13</b> A team was refused a requested substitution by the scorer pressing the buzzer a second time. When the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee checked the score sheet, she discovered that the substitution was, in fact, "legal", and "re-corrected" the situation. This was quite embarrassing. What should have been the correct response of the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The procedure of the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee was correct. Changing decisions, however, can create a very unfavourable impression about the refereeing team.</p>
<p><b>4.14</b> A substitute player was standing in the substitution zone, ready to enter. However, the player on court initially refused to leave the court. Is this delay? Should the substitution be refused?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes, it is delay. However, the substitution THIS TIME should be allowed, because the request was legal according to the rules and the player <i>in play</i> caused this special case, and the substitute player did not cause the delay. However, where the substitute (entering) player is not ready and causes a delay, the correct application of the rule is to reject the substitution and give a sanction to the team for delay.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 16.1.1, 23.2.3</b></p>

<p><b>4.15</b> If the line-up sheet does not match the court positions what does the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee do?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee should show the line-up sheet to the coach and ask what he wants to do. If the coach wishes to keep what is on court, he needs to make legal substitutions at 0:0. This is one of the situations, where the coach must give the hand signal to avoid misunderstandings. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee also must carry this out formally for public understanding of the situation. <b>Rules 7.3.5.2, 7.3.5.3</b></p>
<p><b>4.16</b> Player #6, ready to play, entered the substitution zone during an interruption. The scorer acknowledged the request by using the buzzer. At that moment the coach changed his/her mind and ordered the player back into the warm-up area. Should the substitution have been applied and what should have been the correct procedure?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The request for substitution was correct and already acknowledged by the scorer in using the buzzer. Due to the request, the game was stopped. It is not obligatory to apply the substitution, but the procedure caused a delay and should be sanctioned. <b>Rules 15.10.3a, 15.10.3c, 16.1.1</b></p>
<p><b>4.17 VIDEO</b> After the whistle for service, a substitute player entered the substitution zone. The scorer ignored this, and the game didn't stop. After the end of the rally the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee told the scorer to record an improper request in the score sheet. Was this the right procedure?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee was correct. This was a typical case of an improper request, which had to be recorded in the score sheet. If this was a repeated improper request, a delay sanction must have been issued. <b>Rules 15.11.2, 16.1.1</b></p>
<p><b>4.18</b> If a scorer presses the buzzer for substitution by mistake (after the whistle for service/ player doesn't enter the substitution zone), should the team be charged with an improper request?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> No, since the fault is made by the scorer, this should not be considered either as improper request or as a delay. <b>Rules 15.10.3a, 15.10.3c</b></p>
<p><b>4.19</b> An unregistered player was found to be on court. What do the officials do?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The coach and the team captain have the duty to control the registration of players and confirm it with their signature. Unregistered players who have played in the match will be removed from the court as soon as this is discovered, in favour of a legitimate registered player. All points scored while this unregistered player was on court will be cancelled, and the opponents will gain a point and the next service. If the mistake is detected after the end of the set, the set would be lost by the team at fault. If the mistake is discovered after the end of the match, the whole match would be lost due to the unregistered player in the match. <b>Rules 4.1.3, 4.2.2, 5.1.1, 5.2.2, 7.3.5.4, 15.9.2</b></p>
<p><b>4.20</b> During an interruption, the receiving team 'A'</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes. Because there was in fact a completed rally (as</p>

<p>requested a substitution. During this interruption, team 'B' was penalized, which caused team 'A' to rotate one position. After this, team 'A' requested a new substitution. Is this possible?</p>	<p>defined in the rules) between the two requests for substitution.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 15.2.2</b></p>
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<p><b>4.21</b> At the control of the line-up, the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee detected that the number of the Libero was in the starting line-up. He asked the coach to correct the line-up sheet and informed the scorer about it. After this the match started. Was the procedure correct?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> In this case, the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee should ask the coach for a new and correct line-up sheet (which can be changed only in the position, where the Libero was recorded by mistake). Once the corrected line up sheet has been checked against the new line up on court, the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee will allow the Libero to enter the court.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 7.3.5.2</b></p>
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<p><b>4.22 VIDEO</b> A team requests a substitution, which is not granted because of a wrong paddle. This action caused a delay penalty, because the team had already had a warning. Can the team make a new request for substitution?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes. As penalties (not warnings) are considered as completed rallies, the new request can be accepted in this case.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 6.1.3 – 15 - 15.2.1, 15.11.1.3</b></p>
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<p><b>4.22.1 VIDEO</b> A team wished to apply a double substitution. One player entered the substitution zone ready to play; meanwhile, the other player was still looking for the numbered paddle. Before the finishing of administrative duties for the first substitution, he was already in place. Was the procedure of the referees correct to allow both substitutions without intervention?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes. The referees applied well the new approach of the multiple substitutions. If there is no real delay, the referees should be flexible.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Refereeing Guidelines and Instructions</b></p>
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<p><b>4.22.2 VIDEO</b> A substitute player wearing a warming up shirt entered the substitution zone with a numbered paddle. During the exchange on the side line, he realised this, pulled off the shirt and gave it to the player leaving the court. Is it a legal procedure for a substitution?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> No. A substitute player should be ready to play in the moment of the request for substitution. A player wearing a warming up shirt cannot be considered being ready to play; therefore, this request has to be denied and a delay sanction is to be issued.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 15.10.3a, 15.10.3b.</b></p>
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#### TIME-OUTS AND TECHNICAL TIME-OUTS (IN CASE OF USE)

<p><b>4.23</b> Team B executed a service by a wrong player. This fault was discovered later in the set, at the end of the next TTO. After that the referees applied correctly the respective consequences (cancellation of points gained by team 'B' with the faulty rotation, rectifying the line-up, service and point to team 'A'). Should the referees apply again a TTO, when the leading team reaches the same score for TTO?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> No, only 1 TTO is to be applied in the first 4 sets at the following score: when the leading team reaches the 8<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> points.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 15.4.1</b></p>
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<p><b>4.24</b> Which comes first – an automatic Technical Time out or a request for time out by a coach?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> A TTO has to be granted before a regular game interruption. If after the TTO the coach wanted to have also a normal TO, the team should request this again. <b>Rule 15.4.2</b></p>
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## IMPROPER REQUESTS

<p><b>4.25 VIDEO</b> Can a team request a substitution before AND after a time out, all taking place in the same interruption in play?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> No – while two Time outs can be called by the same team in the same interruption, two successive substitution requests are NOT allowed and the second one should be considered as an improper request. <b>Rules 15.3.1, 15.3.2, 15.10.3a, 15.11.1.3, 25.2.2.6</b></p>
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<p><b>4.26 VIDEO</b> A coach made a third request for time-out, which was granted by the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee. At that moment the scorer realized that it was the third time-out for this team and notified the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee about this. What is the proper procedure for the officials?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Normally this is an improper request – but here an actual delay occurred. So reject or immediately curtail the time-out. Players return to court. The Game Captain is informed of the actual delay and a delay sanction is applied. <b>Rules 15.11.1.4, 16.1.5, 25.2.2.6</b></p>
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<p><b>4.27</b> Is it possible to have an improper request AFTER the team has already been awarded a DELAY warning or penalty?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes, it is. While unusual, a delay can be followed by an improper request – it is not an escalation of the delay! The rule regarding improper requests and the rule for delay are both quite specific in what constitutes an improper request/ what constitutes a delay. So that, even if the team has already been guilty of delay, some actions are ONLY improper requests and are not combined within the earlier delay. <b>Rule 15.5, 16.1</b></p>
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<p><b>4.27.1</b> Is it allowed to request a Time-out or normal player substitution, if a request for game interruption has already been rejected and sanctioned with a delay warning?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> No. By the new approach in such a situation the team has to wait until the end of the next completed rally for the next request for game interruption (with the exception of a substitution due to an injury/illness). If the team still makes a request, it should not be considered as an improper request, just the team should be reminded of this. <b>Refereeing Guidelines and Instructions</b></p>
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## INJURIES

<p><b>4.28 VIDEO</b> Can a player play with a nose bleed?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Referees must use discretion if an injury occurs in which a player bleeds. If an immediate medical treatment does not rectify the injury, he/she must be substituted or replaced until the bleeding is stopped and the blood is removed from the player's uniform. A substitute player must be permitted a reasonable time to take off his/her training suit and enter the game. It is an acceptable procedure by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee to give neither a delay sanction nor to ask the team for a game interruption. <b>Rules 4.4, 15.5, 15.10.2, 15.10.3a, 17.1.1</b></p>
<p><b>4.29 VIDEO</b> A Libero injured his hand while playing defence. After a short therapy, the Libero declared that he was able to play again. The referee then signalled to continue the match with him. Was this the correct decision by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The decision of the 1<sup>st</sup> referee was correct. For the safety of the player, the 1<sup>st</sup> referee must stop the rally immediately when an injury occurs and permit the team doctor and/or medical assistance to enter the court. If the injury appears to be serious and severe enough, the player should be removed from the court for at least one rally. The principle decision by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee is to give the player or/and the team doctor a reasonable time to know the seriousness of the injury, yet to limit the time before the substitution is required. <b>Rules 15.7, 17.1.2</b></p>
<p><b>4.30 VIDEO</b> An accident occurs at the moment of a substitution, which causes the substitute player's nose to bleed. What is the correct procedure?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> First of all the referee should request medical assistance. It is necessary to stop the game. If the player cannot recover, a legal substitution should be applied although it is a second substitution within the same interruption. If no legal substitution is possible an exceptional substitution will be applied. <b>Rules 15.11.1.3</b></p>
<p><b>4.31</b> The team captain is injured before the start of the match. How should the situation be handled?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The process is determined by the moment of the injury. The main principle is written in rule 4.1.3, when the score sheet has been signed by captains and coaches, i.e. after the toss, the team has no right to change the team roster (except, when the Libero is injured, has no chance to play and the coach wants to re-designate the original team captain as the new Libero). Based on this if the injury of the team captain occurred <b>before</b> the toss and he/she cannot play, the coach should designate a new team captain, putting a stripe under the number and circling the player's number in the score sheet. This new team captain will have all duties and rights (i.e. represents his/her</p>

	<p>team at the toss).</p> <p>If the original team captain's injury occurred <b>after</b> the toss, the coach has no right to designate another player as team captain. However, the coach should designate a "general game captain" who takes the rights and duties of the original team captain and signs the score sheet after the match. In both situations the fact of the injury should be recorded in the score sheet.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 4.1.3, 5.1, 5.2.1, 5.2.2, 19.4.2.5, 25.2.2.7</b></p>
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<p><b>4.32</b></p> <p>Following a substitution by team "A", the rally has been interrupted due to the injury of a team "A" player; the player cannot continue in the game. Although there is no completed rally between the requests for substitution, is it legal to substitute the injured player?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>Yes, it is.</p> <p>Although it is improper to request a second substitution without a completed rally, where there is a <i>force majeure</i> situation like this, it is permitted to remove the injured/ill player on court by a substitution.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 15.11.1.3</b></p>
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<p><b>4.33 VIDEO</b></p> <p>What is the correct procedure, if an injured player is not able to complete the substitution formally through the substitution zone? (e.g. carried off the court)?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>In order, that the substitution is clear for everybody, the substitute player should take the numbered paddle of the injured player and enter the substitution zone. The 2nd referee should be given the paddle to return it to the team.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 15.10.1, 17.1.1</b></p>
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## DELAYS TO THE GAME

<p><b>4.34</b></p> <p>Prior to the start of the third set of a match, the 1<sup>st</sup> referee whistled the teams to enter the court. One team did not react. When they were too slow to respond, the 1<sup>st</sup> referee issued a delay warning to them.</p> <p>The team then entered the court. Was this the appropriate action by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>Yes, the 1<sup>st</sup> referee acted correctly. The teams must be summoned to take their positions on the court. If they do not react, the 1<sup>st</sup> referee must issue a delay warning to them. If the team still did not react, a delay penalty would have been given. If this also proved to be ineffective, it would have been judged a refusal to play, the team would have been declared to be in default and the match would have been forfeited. In such a case, the score would have been recorded as 0:3 (0:25, 0:25, 0:25).</p> <p>If a team is returning slowly to the court after a time-out, the same procedure should be followed.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 6.4.1, 16.1</b></p>
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<p><b>4.35</b> Will a team be sanctioned for delay if it forms a huddle on court?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> There is no requirement for the 1<sup>st</sup> referee to allow more than a reasonable time for the players to move to their positions for the next rally. However, he must allow for appropriate enthusiasm and cheering but cannot allow the game to be delayed. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee should urge the team to take their position. If he realises that the players use this behaviour as a tactic for delaying the game consistently, the team should be sanctioned by delay.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 16.1.2, 16.1.5</b></p>
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<p><b>4.36</b> A player refused to play because of a wet place on the floor caused by a team member diving for a ball. What is the proper response of the 1<sup>st</sup> referee?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> It is the 1<sup>st</sup> referee's responsibility to decide upon the mopping requests by the players, if they are obviously delaying the game, and, if necessary, to issue a delay sanction for these actions. The "quick moppers" should mop the wet spot on the floor. Players may also use their own small towels to mop the floor. When the 1<sup>st</sup> referee deems it necessary to mop the floor by the moppers, he/she may give the order. The control of the match is always by the decision of the 1<sup>st</sup> referee, if there is no Control Committee. If, finally, the team still refuses to play, the referee can sanction the team with either delay or default sanctions.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 1.5, 5.1.2.2, 6.4.1, 16.2</b></p>
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<p><b>4.37</b> During an interval between two sets, an entire team went to their locker room and returned after 5 minutes. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee issued a delay sanction, and the game was continued. Was this an appropriate reaction of the referee?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Firstly, a team is not allowed to leave the competition area without permission of the referees. Nevertheless, after two and a half minutes, the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee should go to the team and remind them to enter the court immediately so as not to be declared in default. After they are back on the court, the 1<sup>st</sup> referee should issue a delay sanction.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 4.2, 6.4.1, 6.4.2, 18.1</b></p>
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## EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE

<p><b>4.38</b> What is the correct response of the 1<sup>st</sup> referee if spectators interrupt the match?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The 1<sup>st</sup> referee should stop the match and the organizer or the Control Committee should take steps to re-establish the order. This interruption should be recorded on the score sheet.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 17.2, 17.3</b></p>
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<p><b>4.39 VIDEO</b> After a player's dig in the free zone behind the end line, directing the ball back into court, the ball hit the crane camera which had penetrated into the playing space. The referees should stop the game. How</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Within the playing area the players have the priority to play. If the ball hits an outside object or a person penetrating from outside the playing area, e.g. the crane TV camera or a journalist reaching in to catch</p>
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<p>should the 1<sup>st</sup> referee consider this action - as “OUT” or as “external interference”?</p>	<p>the ball, it should be considered as “external interference” and the rally should be replayed.</p> <p>On the video the Libero was about to play the ball and continue the rally, but the crane camera prevented him to do it. This should be considered as an "external interference" and the rally was to be replayed.</p> <p>Had the dig been misdirected towards the spectators, with no player able to play it, the referee will not judge this as external interference but ball OUT.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 17.2</b></p>
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<p><b>4.40 VIDEO</b></p> <p>A middle spiker during the preparation for attack lost one shoe, which fell down in the front zone. He spiked the ball then the team lost the rally. After finishing the rally the middle spiker requested to take back the shoe. The referees did not intervene either during or after the rally. How should referees correctly handle such a situation?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>The main principle is the security of the players. If the referees judge that the shoe, part of the player’s equipment, creates a dangerous object, they should stop the game.</p> <p>Because it was obvious that the player did not lose the shoe intentionally, his request to take it back cannot be considered as a delay.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 17.2</b></p>
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<p><b>4.41 VIDEO</b></p> <p>If a player, running to play the ball, clashes into the referee’s chair, should the rally automatically be interrupted and replayed?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>No.</p> <p>The referee should judge if this clash has an influence on his/her activity.</p> <p>If the referee cannot continue the work normally, the rally should be stopped and replayed. If there is no interference due to the clash, let the rally be continued without any interruption.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 17.2</b></p>
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<p><b>4.42 new VIDEO</b></p> <p>During the game, due to an inattentive ball retriever, a second ball rolls onto the court. The situation was not realized by either the 1<sup>st</sup> referee, or the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee. After the rally finished, the 1<sup>st</sup> referee decided to replay due to external interference. Was it a correct decision?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>The main principle is the security of the players. Therefore, if the referees realize that a second ball is on the court or is about to roll onto the court, they should interrupt the rally.</p> <p>If the second ball was sent onto the court intentionally by a team member, the philosophy should be the same, but this action must be considered as an aggressive action, leading to the disqualification of the team member.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 17.2</b></p>
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## CHAPTER 5 – LIBERO

<p><b>5.1</b> Can the Libero enter the game without the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee's permission after checking the line-up before the set?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes, he can. The starting player must be on the court at the time of the line-up check. As soon as the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee has checked the line-up, the Libero may replace the back row player. The team does not need to start with or use a Libero. <b>Rules 19.3.2.4, 19.3.2.8, 24.3.1</b></p>
<p><b>5.2</b> A team has already applied all legal substitutions in a set when a player on court is expelled and the Libero is sitting on the bench. How should the match continue?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The expelled/disqualified player should be immediately substituted legally. Since there is no possibility for that, the team has to be declared incomplete and will lose the set. (Note: exceptional substitutions are not an option here). <b>Rules 6.4.3, 15.7, 15.8</b></p>
<p><b>5.3</b> Can the Libero be allowed to enter the match by a regular substitution procedure in place of an injured player?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> No. The Libero is not allowed to participate in any substitution, regular or exceptional. <b>Rules 15.5, 15.7, 17</b></p>
<p><b>5.4</b> The Libero was on the court for player #5 and was expelled from the set. What is the correct process to continue the match?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> If the team has two Liberos, the coach may replace the sanctioned acting Libero immediately by the second Libero or by the #5. If the team has only one Libero, the team may choose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• to send player #5 back to the court in place of the Libero and play without a Libero for the remainder of the set, or</li><li>• the coach re-designates a new Libero from the players not on the court in the moment of re-designation and the new Libero may immediately and directly replace the expelled acting Libero (who is not allowed to play for the remainder of the match).</li></ul> <p><b>Rules 6.4.3, 19.1.1, 19.3.2, 19.3.2.8, 19.4</b></p>
<p><b>5.5 VIDEO</b> Can a Libero replacement take place at the same time as a substitution?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes – because the “replacement” is not a “substitution” and vice versa. <b>Rules 15.3.2, 19.3.2, 19.3.2.8</b></p>
<p><b>5.6 VIDEO</b> The Libero replacing the player in position 1 did it after the referee's whistle for service but before the service hit. What is the proper response by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> If this was the first occurrence in the match, the 1<sup>st</sup> referee should allow the rally to continue uninterrupted. After the rally, he/she should advise the game captain that this is not a correct procedure. Subsequent late replacements should trigger delay sanctions immediately, interrupting the rally. <b><i>The Libero replacement remains valid, however.</i></b></p>

	<p>If the replacement has been made <b>after the service hit</b>, the 1<sup>st</sup> referee should whistle this as a positional fault.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 19.3.2.5</b></p>
<p><b>5.7</b> A team made an illegal Libero replacement, but it was noticed before the service hit was made. How should this be handled?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> If noticed, the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee will use the whistle to call back the player. The illegal replacement will be cancelled and the team will be sanctioned for delay.</p> <p>If noticed after the game continued, the consequences are the same as for an illegal substitution.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 19.3.2.1, 19.3.2.9, 23.2.3</b></p>
<p><b>5.8</b> While running after a ball, the team's only Libero (replacing N°4) injured his leg muscle and could no longer play. The coach then decided that he wanted player N°4 to become the re-designated Libero. Is this possible?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Not directly because the replacement player is excepted from a re-designation at the moment of the request for re-designation. If the coach wants player N° 4 to be the new Libero, N° 4 at first has to return to court replacing the injured Libero, and be substituted legally. Then he can enter the court as the new Libero only after one completed rally, because the second replacement would be an illegal one in the same interruption.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 19.1.3., 19.3.2.2, 19.3.2.8, 19.4.2</b></p>
<p><b>5.9.</b> Is it allowed to be a coach and the Libero at the same time?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes. The rules state that the Libero cannot be the team or game captain. The rules do not forbid the Libero from being the coach or instructing the team behind the coach restriction line.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 5.2.3.4</b></p>
<p><b>5.10</b> A mistake by two players led to the Libero/ replacement player leaving the court briefly (this event had not yet been recorded on the Libero control sheet) – but they corrected the mistake immediately themselves. Is this counted as a replacement?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> No, this does not count as a replacement, because there must be one completed rally between two Libero replacements. This was an obvious mistake but should not be counted as a fault.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 19.3.2.1, 19.3.2.2</b></p>

<p><b>5.11. (new)</b> A team forgot to replace the Libero when he rotated to the front row in position 4. What is the correct procedure, when the referees realise this obvious mistake?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The Libero has no right to play in the front row, and he has to leave the court after rotating into position 4. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee has to delay the signal for the next service for a reasonable time. If the replacement is still not applied, the team must be reminded about their obligation and make a Libero replacement and then they should be sanctioned for any delay caused.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 19.3.1.1, 26.2.2.1, 26.2.2.2</b></p>
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<p><b>5.12.</b> During the official warm-up, when the line-up sheet had already been submitted to the scorer, including the team captain, the team's single Libero was injured. Can the captain become the new Libero and what a procedure should be applied?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes, he can. While it is true that the Libero cannot be team or game captain the team captain can give up his position and all rights and duties linked to it, in order to play as the re-designated Libero. Since the team captain was already on the line-up sheet, the sequence of actions should be as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Substitution of the team captain with another player by a regular substitution before the match begins.</li> <li>2. Request by the coach to appoint a new team captain.</li> <li>3. Re-designation of the new Libero.</li> <li>4. Request from the referee that the new Libero changes his / her uniform to that of a Libero (or covers his/ her own uniform by a bib or a jacket kept for the purpose in the reserve equipment).</li> <li>5. Request the scorer to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-register the original team captain as the new or re-designated Libero (to replace the original Libero),</li> <li>• Register the new team captain.</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p>The details of these re-registrations/ re-designations must be written in the "REMARKS" box of the score sheet.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 5, 19.2, 19.3.2.8, 19.4.2.5,</b></p>
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<p><b>5.13.</b> The Libero was replaced and immediately sent back to the court (without any rally between the two replacements). Is this permitted?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> No. This is a typical case for illegal Libero replacement. At the moment of the 2<sup>nd</sup> replacement the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee should reject it, and the 1<sup>st</sup> referee should issue a delay sanction. Where an assistant scorer acts, it is his/her duty to check the Libero replacements. In this case, at the moment he/ she should press the buzzer, signalling the fault committed.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 19.3.2.9, 23.2.3</b></p>
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<p><b>5.14.</b> The Libero was replaced by a regular player. After the service, a reserve ball penetrated into the playing court, and the rally was stopped. Before the whistle for the replayed rally, the Libero attempted to replace the player in position #6. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee called him back. Is this a correct action by the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> This is a typical case for illegal Libero replacement, because there was no <i>completed</i> rally between two Libero replacements. At the moment of the 2<sup>nd</sup> replacement the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee should reject it, and the 1<sup>st</sup> referee should issue a delay sanction. <b>Rule 19.3.2.1</b></p>
<p><b>5.15.</b> The Libero of a team became injured during the match, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee authorized the medical doctor, with the coach in attendance, to be on the court for checking the seriousness of the injury. They decided to take the Libero out of the court and send the replaced player back on the court. After he was led off the court, the Libero claimed he had recovered and insisted on returning to the court to play. The referees allowed the Libero to go back on the court and to resume the match. Was this correct?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> No, it should not have been allowed. Even though it was the case of injury, the Libero could be replaced through a regular replacement. Also, the Libero still has the right to participate in the match until he/she is declared unable to continue (<b>Rule 19.4.2</b>). Thus, this situation was a mistake because two consecutive replacements took place without any completed rally in between. This is a case for illegal Libero replacement. <b>Rules 19.3.2.1, 19.3.2.8</b></p>
<p><b>5.16</b> The Libero of team 'A' injured his/her arm during the match, and a new Libero was re-designated. The original Libero sat on the bench for the remainder of the match. Should this have been permitted?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes. The player was mobile, not providing any obstruction or danger to himself/herself or teammates. This last point is crucial to the ruling. The player should be permitted to stay on the bench. Had the player to be treated, the team doctor should have been advised to place the player behind the bench or in a place of safety outside the Competition-Control area. <b>Diagram 1a and Definitions. Rule 19.3.2.8</b></p>
<p><b>5.17.</b> When can two Libero replacements take place in the same interruption for the same team?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Only in 2 cases can 2 Libero replacements take place in the same interruption. 1. when a penalty has been issued 2. when immediately after the Libero entered the court, a rally became incomplete due to the injury of the Acting Libero <b>Rules 6.1.3, 19.3.2.1</b></p>
<p><b>5.18</b> The Acting Libero complained of feeling sick. Is it permitted to re-designate a new Libero?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> If the team has two Liberos, in case of injury or illness of the Acting Libero, he/she can be replaced by the second Libero. In the case where a team has only one Libero or the second Libero has become unable to play while on court, he/she can be replaced by the re-designation procedure. <b>Rules 19.3.2.2,</b></p>

<p><b>5.19</b> The scorer recorded the number '15' for the Libero, instead of "5". The coach and the team captain signed the team list. What should happen if discovered?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> This is an administrative mistake and will not have any consequences for the team. The scorer will correct the number in the 'Remarks' box. <b>Rule 19.1.2</b></p>
<p><b>5.20</b> In the 1<sup>st</sup> set of a match, the Libero of 'A' played in a shirt with the same colour and design as the rest of the team. Before the start of the 2<sup>nd</sup> set, the coach of 'B' protested against this situation. What is the correct decision?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Because the wrong shirt had no influence on the game, the result of the 1<sup>st</sup> set will not be cancelled and no sanction is to be issued to team 'A'. The Libero has to change his/her shirt, however. <b>Rule 19.2</b></p>
<p><b>5.21.</b> Two players tried to block an opponent's attack and jumped at the net. Between them the Libero also jumped, but didn't reach at any time with any part of his/her body higher than the top of the net. Nevertheless, the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee whistled this as block attempt. Was this decision correct?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The decision was not correct. Because the Libero didn't reach at any time with any part of his body higher than the top of the net, his/her jumping could not be considered as a block attempt. <b>Rules 14.1.1, 14.1.2, 14.1.3</b></p>
<p><b>5.22</b> The Libero came off court. The server was whistled for a delay in service (8 seconds). Can the Libero now re-enter the court?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> This service (fault) is to be considered as a completed rally. Therefore, the Libero will be allowed to re-enter the court. <b>Rules 6.1.3, 19.3.2.1, 19.3.2</b></p>
<p><b>5.23.</b> The coach declared the single Libero unable to play and wanted to re-designate a new Libero.  Who can be re-designated as the new Libero and when?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Except for the regular replacement player, any player on the bench at the moment of the request for re-designation can be re-designated as the new Libero. The original Libero cannot come back into the match at any time. If the coach wants the regular replacement player to be the new Libero, he/she first must substitute him/her legally. If the Acting Libero is declared unable to play, he/she must be replaced by the regular replacement player and the new Libero has the right to enter the court after one completed rally, because the second replacement would be an illegal one. <b>Rules 19.3.2.8, 19.4.2.1, 19.4.2.4</b></p>
<p><b>5.24. VIDEO</b> A team had 2 Liberors recorded, No. 11 and 16. The latter wore a shirt with the same colour and design as the normal players of the team. The team requested a substitution and the player No. 16 appeared in the substitution zone to substitute a player on court. The scorer immediately signalled that this request was not a legal one. How should the game continue?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The Libero has no right to take part either by legal, or exceptional substitution. Therefore, the substitution request should be considered as an illegal one. Because this was discovered before the game resumed, the request should be denied and a delay sanction should be issued for the faulty team. The Libero has to change his/her shirt, however.</p>

	<p>The referees should control carefully the teams and the players' uniform comparing the players and shirt numbers before the match in due time in order to avoid such a situation.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 15.5.1, 15.7, 16.1.3, 19.2</b></p>
<p><b>5.25.</b> A team had 2 Liberos recorded. After the 2<sup>nd</sup> set the coach declared <b>both</b> Liberos unable to play and re-designated one new Libero to replace them. Is it allowed?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes, it is allowed. It is not forbidden to declare both Liberos unable to play at the same time. None of original Liberos may re-enter the match after the re-designation, but they have the right to sit on the bench or to be in the warming-up area.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 19.4.2.1, 19.4.2.2.</b></p>
<p><b>5.26. VIDEO</b> Receiving a fake attack by the setter of team B the ball was played with the fingers of one hand over the head by the Libero of team A standing in the front zone. This ball was spiked by a teammate completely over the height of the net in the moment of the hit. What is the consideration of the judgement, if this action was legal or illegal?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Based on the approach of the rule, if the Libero's action is done with opened fingers like a classical, intentional set, it is considered as a fault. However, if the Libero protects the body/face instead of setting, it should be a legal play.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 13.3.6.,19.3.1.4.</b></p>

<p><b>6.1</b> The 1<sup>st</sup> referee warned a player for minor misconduct, going directly to STAGE 2 of the minor misconduct procedures, and showing the player a yellow card, to be recorded on the score sheet. Is this a correct action by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> This is a correct action by the referee. Such minor misconducts must be controlled by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee. The yellow card must be recorded. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee may give a verbal warning to the team via the game captain (stage 1) if the minor misconduct is of a general nature. Although, depending of the seriousness of minor misconduct he/she may start with stage 2 showing a yellow card directly to the concerned player or team member through the game captain. The referee has the authority to go directly to the issuing of sanctions if an offence is of a serious nature.</p> <p align="right"><b>Rules 21.1, 21.2</b></p>
<p><b>6.2</b> The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee observed an attempted deception (a blocker pulled the net) and whistled for the attacking team to win the rally. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee then signalled a warning to the player by using a yellow card. Is this the correct penalization for him/her?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The decision of the 1<sup>st</sup> referee was not correct. The rally should have been won by the attacking team because of the net contact by the opposite player which interfered with the play. The blocker then should have received a penalty for the rude conduct of attempting to mislead the referees.</p> <p align="right"><b>Rules 21.2.1, 21.3</b></p>
<p><b>6.3</b> The Coach of ‘A’ stood up at the end of a rally and waved his arms in a manner that suggested disgust with the referee’s decision. Is this allowed?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The coach should be allowed to express certain normal responses. If the response is judged to be minor misconduct reaching the stage 2 level, the coach should be warned by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee by use of a yellow card. If repeated, he should be penalized with a red card for rude conduct. If the infraction occurred during a rally, the penalty should be given at the end of the rally in addition to the result of the rally.</p> <p align="right"><b>Rules 5.2, 21.1, 21.2, 21.3</b></p>
<p><b>6.4</b> Between sets a penalty for rude conduct was given by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee to Team ‘A’ which had the first service for the next set. What happens next?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Sanctions imposed between sets are set against the next set. Thus, before the first service, the 1<sup>st</sup> referee should signal the penalty for team A. The team B gains one point, rotates and serves.</p> <p align="right"><b>Rule 21.5</b></p> <p>The following is a summary of infractions which occur between sets, the penalties for which must be recorded on the score sheet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Warning against a member of any team (yellow card).</li> <li>• Penalty against a serving team member. The receiving team gains a point, rotates and gains the service.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Penalty against a receiving team member. Point awarded to the serving team.</li> <li>• Penalties against each team no matter in which order. Each team gains a point (score 1-1) and each team rotates one position.</li> </ul> <p>The score is counted only when each team has been penalized. Thus, a double penalty at the score of 24-25 would not end the set at 24-26, but the score would be 25-26.</p>
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<p><b>6.5 VIDEO</b> After the end of a rally, the setter pulled down the bottom of the net. Should this have been a fault?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> No. Because the net touch shown on the video occurred after the rally, cannot be considered as a technical fault. Regarding the misconduct aspect according to Rule 21.3, the 1<sup>st</sup> referee has the authority to sanction a player according to the seriousness of the offence. Pulling down the net may be a normal emotional reaction of a disappointed player and can be controlled by the art of refereeing. In some cases, intentional pulling down of the net may be considered as a rude conduct, e.g during the rally misleading the referee and/or the opponent.</p> <p>However based on the current approach, if the second referee observes unsportsmanlike gestures or words between the opponents, or similar behaviour, he/she can order the players to change his/her behaviour asking the player(s) to calm down.</p> <p><b>Rules 21.2, 21.2.1, 21.3, Refereeing Guidelines and Instructions 24.7</b></p>
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<p><b>6.6</b> A player walked towards the 1<sup>st</sup> referee gesturing wildly and shouting to him even after a warning. How should we consider this action?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> This should be regarded as Offensive Conduct, and sanctioned by red and yellow cards jointly. <b>Rules 21.1, 21.2, 21.3</b></p>
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<p><b>6.7</b> A player was expelled directly from the court with no prior warning. How should we regard a subsequent minor misconduct from any other member of the same team?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The 1<sup>st</sup> referee should normally try to prevent a team from reaching the sanctioning level. However, should a clear case of offensive conduct be committed in the first instance, the referee must expel the player without a previous sanction. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee may issue a warning to other team members after the expulsion – but once the yellow card is shown, it may not be shown again to any member of the team.</p> <p><b>Rule 21</b></p>
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<p><b>6.8</b> After the match one team captain showed very unsportsmanlike behaviour towards the 1<sup>st</sup> referee. What is the correct procedure of the 1<sup>st</sup> referee?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The player must still be sanctioned in some way. However, for FIVB events, since the match is regarded as not finished by the last whistle of the referees, the behaviour of the team captain must be reported to the Game Jury, and the details of the misconduct recorded in the REMARKS box of the score sheet. The FIVB Control Committee has a range of sanctions at its disposal, including suspension from the Competition.</p>
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<p><b>6.9</b> The Libero replacement was sitting on the bench. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee sanctioned him by issuing a penalty. The player did not stop this behaviour and applauded the referee. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee sanctioned him with an expulsion. The expelled player continued the behaviour and received a disqualification. What is the correct procedure?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The expelled or disqualified player should be substituted legally immediately. The sequence of procedure is the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Libero should leave the court, then</li> <li>• the substitute player enters the substitution zone with the appropriate paddle, gives it to the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee; meanwhile the scorer records the legal substitution.</li> </ul> <p>The Libero may return to the court after one completed rally.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 6.4.3, 15.8</b></p>
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## CHAPTER 7 – THE REFEREES AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES

<p><b>7.1</b> The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee told a coach not to talk with or distract the scorer. Is this a correct action by the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> In the spirit of the art of refereeing, if such situations can be resolved by the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee without formality, this can be done.  <b>Rule 23.3.2.2</b></p>
<p><b>7.2</b> Can a reserve player sit on the floor in the warm-up area instead of standing or stretching?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Players are not required to stand in the warm-up area. On the other hand, players may not sit on benches, chairs, rails or walls in the warm-up area.  <b>Rules 4.2.1, 4.2.3, 24.2.4, 24.2.5</b></p>
<p><b>7.3</b> Can a coach ask the scorer for information about the number of time-outs that had been taken by the <b>other</b> team?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The scorer should not respond to the coach. Generally, coaches are not permitted to ask the scorers for any information. However, where an electronic scoreboard is used, but the number of used game interruptions is not indicated, the coaches have the right to ask the scorer for this information, but only about their own team and at a time which is neither distracting to the scorer nor delaying the match.  <b>Rule 25.2.2</b></p>
<p><b>7.4</b> Can a captain make a formal protest on the score sheet if he has not notified the referee of his intention during the match?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> If at the time of any incident, the game captain made no mention of a protest, he cannot make a written protest on the score sheet at the end of the match.  <b>Rules 5.1.2.1, 5.1.3.2, 23.2.4</b></p>
<p><b>7.5</b> Can a refereeing decision be reversed even after the end of the set?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes. Up to the start of the next set, referees are allowed to correct their decisions immediately concerning the application of the rules, if they realize they were mistaken. The match score will be corrected as appropriate.</p>
<p><b>7.6</b> After a request for a third time out was refused as an improper request, the coach changed her mind and sent a player for substitution. Is this allowed?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Provided there was no whistle for service, the request for substitution should have been allowed as proper – only the time out was improper. However, the improper request for time-out should be recorded on the score sheet.  <b>Rules 15.1, 15.2.1, 15.11, 16.1, 16.2, 24.2.6, 24.2.7</b></p>
<p><b>7.7</b> During a time-out a coach met with his entire team in the very back corner of the free zone near the warm-up zone. Is this permitted?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The team must “go to the free zone near their bench” during a time-out and the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee should tell the team to do so.  <b>Rule 15.4.4</b></p>

<p><b>7.8</b> The assistant coach came to the side line to assist the players to find a wet spot. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee called the game captain and told him/her to tell the assistant coach to stay on the bench. Did the 1<sup>st</sup> referee make a correct decision?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The decision of the 1<sup>st</sup> referee was correct. The assistant coach is allowed to sit on the bench and may not intervene in the match. Only the coach may walk near the side line.  <b>Rules 5.2.3.4, 5.3.1</b></p>
<p><b>7.9</b> After a rally a coach asked the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee if his server was correct. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee checked the rotational order with the scorer and replied that the correct player was ready to serve. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee continued the match. Is this the correct process of the referees?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The process was not correct. The only team member allowed to speak with the referees is the game captain. Thus, the coach is not authorized to request information from the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee should have called the game captain and asked her to remind the coach of the fact that he has no right to ask the referees for information.  <b>Rule 5.1.2</b></p>
<p><b>7.10</b> After the end of time-out both teams returned to the court, except one player, who was still drinking water close to the bench. The scorer had already made the “two hands” signal ready to continue the game. Has the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee the right to give his “two hands” signal towards the 1<sup>st</sup> referee?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> No. Before the start of a set or continuing the game after a TO or TTO the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee’s duty is to check if the scorer has finished the administrative tasks and if the teams are on the court ready to play. Therefore, if any one of the players did not enter the court after being summoned by the referees to continue, the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee has no right to give the “two hands” signal. After a reasonable time, the 1<sup>st</sup> referee should consider this action as a delay and issue the appropriate sanction.  <b>Refereeing Guidelines and Instructions 24.7</b></p>
<p><b>7.11 VIDEO</b> Has the 1<sup>st</sup> referee the right to whistle positional fault at the receiving team?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Basically both referees have their own responsibilities. Some duties belong to both referees. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee has the right to overrule the decision of any member of the refereeing corps on the match. However, it is not recommended for the 1<sup>st</sup> referee to call this fault, because it belongs to the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee’s responsibilities.  <b>Rule 23.2.1.</b></p>

<p><b>8.1</b> Team 'B' intentionally slowed down the tempo of the game. How should the referee respond?</p>	<p><b>PRINCIPLE</b> The referee should keep the game at a constant tempo within the normal flow of the game. The referee should never allow any external influences to retard the flow of a good match and ruin the good performance of one of the teams. This is another "art" of refereeing.</p>
<p><b>8.2</b> A floor wiping towel from one of the players of 'B' fell on the court of A. What should the referees do?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> If, according to the judgment of the 1<sup>st</sup> referee, the situation is dangerous, he should stop the game immediately and direct a replay. But if the rally is finished and the falling towel will have no influence on its outcome, there is no need to direct a replay. <b>Rule 17.2</b></p>
<p><b>8.3</b> The match was resumed on another playing court after the lights failed. What is the correct ruling on the use of a disqualified player in the third set when it started again?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The interrupted set has to be cancelled and replayed with the same team members and the same starting line-ups but neither disqualified nor expelled players are allowed to participate. Another player who was on the team and not in the starting line-up must take his place. Furthermore, all other warnings/sanctions which have been recorded on the score sheet up to the point that the lights went out must be carried over into the new set. <b>Rule 17.3.2.2</b></p>
<p><b>8.4 VIDEO</b> When passing the net post to retrieve a 1<sup>st</sup> hit passing outside the antenna, a player grabbed the referee's chair to turn rapidly enough to get to the ball. Is this taking support?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> No. To judge, if the action was legal, <u>the moment of the playing the ball</u> is the crucial point. Because the player did not take any support while he was hitting the ball, his action cannot be judged as an assisted hit. Legal and attractive play. <b>Rule 9.1.3</b></p>
<p><b>8.5 VIDEO</b> After a substitution, based on the result of the challenge procedure the 1<sup>st</sup> referee had to change her original decision and ordered to replay the rally. The coach therefore requested to reverse the substitution. Is this possible?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Since the 1<sup>st</sup> referee changed his/her decision, which was the basis of the substitution, in the spirit of the game the coach's request could be accepted. No substitution would be charged against this team.</p>
<p><b>8.6. new VIDEO</b> After a weak service reception by team A, the ball went into the opponent side over the antenna. A player ran to replay it. When he hit the ball, it was already over the scorer's table on the opponent side. Was his action legal?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> Yes. By the new interpretation, the ball can be replayed from above the scorer's table on the opponent side. However this action is not allowed further outside of the free zone, e.g. over the opponent's bench.</p>

## CHAPTER 9 – EXTENDED CASES

The cases shown above are specifically designed to be short, easily read and easily understood – i.e. to make them accessible to a larger audience.

The following cases contain extended versions of some of the same cases, to permit a more exhaustive analysis of the event as it actually took place.

<p><b>9.1 VIDEO</b></p> <p>A player passed the received ball so that it would have crossed the net if not touched by another player of the same team. The setter was in position to make a legal play on the ball. The opponent's blocker reached across the vertical plane of the net and blocked the ball before the setter could play it. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee called a fault on the block. Is this a correct decision of 1<sup>st</sup> referee?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>The 1<sup>st</sup> referee's decision was correct, and the block was illegal. Blockers may not contact the ball beyond the net until the attack hit is executed, except when in the judgment of the 1<sup>st</sup> referee, no possibility and willingness exists for further play of the ball by the attacking team.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 14.3</b></p>
<p><b>9.2</b></p> <p>A player of team 'A' sent the ball over the net into the opponent's space, where a back row player within the front zone jumped and reached higher than the top of the net to block. An attacker of 'A' contacted the ball beyond the plane of the net to hit the ball with two hands in a blocking action. Both players touched the ball at the same time. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee signalled a double fault. Was the referee's decision correct?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>The referee's decision was correct. The attacker, even though he/she hit the ball with a blocking action, completed an attack hit, not a block. A block is an action to intercept the ball coming from the opponent's side of the court, not coming from his own setter.</p> <p>Since the initial contact of the ball by the attacker was in the opponent's space, the attack was illegal. The back row player completed the block by the contact with the ball higher than the top of the net, committing a fault.</p> <p>Since both players committed a fault at the same time, the rally ended with a double fault.</p> <p>Under this complicated situation at the top of the net, the 1<sup>st</sup> referee must observe the play very carefully. If the attacker from 'A' touched the ball first, he should be charged with the only fault. If the back row player touched the ball first, he/she should be charged with the only fault.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 13.3.1, 14.1.1, 14.6.2</b></p>
<p><b>9.3 VIDEO</b></p> <p>Team "B" requested a substitution. The substitute player just entered into the substitution zone ready to play with numbered card, when the 1<sup>st</sup> referee was about to give the signal for the next service of team "A". Neither the scorer, nor the 1<sup>st</sup> referee realized that the substitute player was already close to the sideline. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee, waving her hands, sent back the player to the team bench. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee whistled for the service and the rally continued. Was this situation handled correctly?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>The situation is complex. Although the substitute player entered into the substitution zone at the very last moment, the request was still in correct time, before the whistle for the next service. Based on this the team made no fault, and cannot be sanctioned. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee is obliged to check before his/her authorization for next service if the teams want to request any game interruption.</p> <p>She was not attentive enough in this, missing this duty. The scorer was also not attentive enough, missing the entering player and not pushing the buzzer to acknowledge the substitution request, which was correct.</p>

	<p>The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee has the right to whistle at a substitution, when there is no buzzer sound or the scorer is inattentive.</p> <p>With a better collaboration by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee or a more definite attitude by the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee such situations can be avoided.</p>
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<p><b>9.4</b></p> <p>The coach of team 'A' attempted to request a substitution late in the set. The substitute player was late arriving in the substitution zone. The scorer pressed the buzzer and the game stopped although the 1<sup>st</sup> referee had already whistled for service. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee cancelled the rally, refused to allow the substitution and issued a delay warning. Team 'B' then called a time-out followed by a substitution. Team 'A' followed this with a substitution request which this time was granted. Is this a correct ruling by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>This is not a correct ruling by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee. His first action to reject the substitution for the delay and to give a delay warning was correct.</p> <p>By the new approach in such a situation if the team still makes a request, it should not be considered as an improper request, just the team should be reminded of this.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 15.3.1, 15.3.2, 15.10.3, 15.11.1.3, 16.1.1, 16.1.2, 25.2.2.6; Refereeing Guidelines and Instructions</b></p>
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<p><b>9.5</b></p> <p>When the middle blocker of team 'B' rotated to serve, his coach substituted him by a service specialist. After losing the service, the service specialist was replaced by the Libero.</p> <p>When the Libero had to rotate to the front row, the middle blocker raced onto the court to replace him. After two rallies, team 'A' realized that the replacement was not legal because the middle blocker had not been substituted back for the service specialist. Team 'A' protested the situation.</p> <p>The 1<sup>st</sup> referee allowed team 'B' to substitute the middle blocker into the match for the service specialist.</p> <p>Was this the correct ruling?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>The process applied by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee was not correct. This is a typical case of an illegal Libero replacement.</p> <p>Team B should have been penalized with a point and service to the opponents for an illegal Libero replacement, and the loss of additional points should be confirmed with any evidence including the Libero control sheet (R-6). If the points gained during the illegal situation were able to be identified, they should be deducted from the points of the team B. If not, no additional points should be deducted. To get the middle blocker legally back into the match, team 'B' should have requested a regular substitution for the service specialist.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 19.3.2.1, 23.2.3</b></p>
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<p><b>9.6 VIDEO</b></p> <p>A Libero played the ball within the front zone with an overhand finger action. The direction of the ball took it to a point directly above the net where it was hit by his/her attacker and almost at the same time by the opponent blocker.</p> <p>What should the referees consider in their decision?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>A Libero may make an overhand action in the front zone. A Libero may direct the ball to the opponent by an overhand action. It is a fault, however, for the attacker to complete an attack hit from an overhand finger pass if the Libero makes the overhand finger action from the front zone and at the moment of the attack hit the ball was entirely higher than the top of the net. The attack hit becomes complete when the ball completely crosses the plane of the net or contacts the block.</p> <p>In this situation there are 3 options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• attacker hits the ball first: attacker completed an attack within the above condition. Opponent team (Blocker's team) serves next.</li> <li>• attacker and blocker hit the ball simultaneously: since the hit was made above the net, i.e. where</li> </ul>
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	<p>both players have the right to play the ball, the blocker's hit in the same moment of the attack hit was legal. However, the attacker completed his/her attack, when the blocker hit the ball - it means he/she made an attack hit fault. Blocker's Team serves next.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• blocker hits the ball first: since the blocker blocked a legal attack hit made by the Libero, no fault was committed. The attacker's play should be considered as a block. The rally is to be continued.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 19.3.1.4</b></p>
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<p><b>9.7</b></p> <p>The coach of 'B' requested a time-out. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee whistled for it.</p> <p>The 1<sup>st</sup> referee did not hear the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee's whistle and he authorized the service by 'A'.</p> <p>The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee whistled again to allow the requested time-out. Amidst some confusion, the 1<sup>st</sup> referee awarded a delay warning to 'B'.</p> <p>Later in the same set, a server of 'B' was sanctioned for delaying the game. This second delay sanction for 'B' in the same match resulted in a delay penalty and gave 'A' a point. This was point 24 and took team 'A' to match point which they subsequently won.</p> <p>Team 'B' vehemently protested against the delay sanctions.</p> <p>Were they justified in their protest?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>Team 'B' had a good reason to protest.</p> <p>In instances in which the referees have had a genuine misunderstanding, the team should not be penalized. Thus the first delay warning was not justified. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee would have to clarify immediately the situation with the 1<sup>st</sup> referee. In this way they could avoid later an unfounded sanction and the complaint by team 'B'.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 5.1.2.1</b></p>
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<p><b>9.8</b></p> <p>During the second set, the scoreboard which could be seen by the spectators was not correct.</p> <p>Immediately, the emotional coach of 'A' challenged the scorer, the referee, and the Control Committee. He was supported by his Head of Delegation who appeared at the Control Committee table from the spectator seats reserved for Heads of Delegation.</p> <p>The 1<sup>st</sup> referee whistled the game captain of 'A' and explained that he/she was sanctioning the coach with a penalty for rude conduct. Although the game captain had to communicate this to his coach, he did not do so. Furthermore, in the resulting confusion, the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee missed the sanctioning of the coach and the penalty for the rude conduct was not recorded on the score sheet.</p> <p>The score was corrected and the game continued without any mention of an incident recorded on the score sheet.</p> <p>How should this incident have been handled?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>The initial error was that of the scorer.</p> <p>The second one was that of the scoreboard operator. The third one was that of the assistant scorer for not checking with the official scorer to be certain that they were each in agreement.</p> <p>The 1<sup>st</sup> referee, via his 2<sup>nd</sup> referee, should have been certain that the penalty was recorded on the score sheet.</p> <p>The game captain should have communicated the misconduct to his coach. When he did not do this, he should have been sanctioned.</p> <p>The Control Committee was incorrect in allowing the Head of Delegation to approach the Control Committee's table. The Game Jury President should have stopped the match and after a consultation with the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee and the scorer or e-scorer, if used, he should decide upon the continuation of the match.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 21, 25.2.2.1, 25.2.2.6, 25.2.2.7, 26.2.2.5</b></p>
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<p><b>9.9</b></p> <p>The player #1 was ready to serve. His game captain requested confirmation of the correct server. The scorer gave the information that player #6 should be the server. The game captain doubted this information and insisted again that player #1 should be the server. He was still not satisfied and while attempting to approach him, the 1<sup>st</sup> referee whistled for service. Amidst confusion, the team was penalized for not serving within the allowed 8 seconds.</p> <p>In the score sheet it was found that the coach of the team had submitted an incorrect line-up, which had player #6 in two positions. It should have been #6 and #1. Number #1 should have been serving as the game captain had surmised. What is the correct ruling by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>Common sense must prevail in resolving this case. The initial error was that of the coach, when he submitted his incorrect line-up. This was compounded by the inattention of the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee and the scorer.</p> <p>Therefore, the team should not be penalized for the incorrect server, and player #1 should be allowed to serve.</p> <p>On the other hand, the original error of the coach caused a delay of the game, thus a delay sanction must be applied.</p> <p>Furthermore, immediately after discovering and clarifying the situation, the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee must request a new line-up sheet from the coach and the score sheet should be corrected</p>
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<p><b>9.10 VIDEO</b></p> <p>A player of team “B” attacked the ball after the 1<sup>st</sup> referee blew his whistle to finish the rally. Because of the hard attack, the ball hit the head of a player of team “A”, who was celebrating the point gained by his team. This action provoked the reaction of all teammates of the team “A” player, who crossed under the net to the opponent court trying to lash out at the player #9 of team “B” for his bad behaviour. A great confusion happened involving all persons involved in the game, including top authorities, in order to control the turbulent situation. When calm returned, the 1<sup>st</sup> referee directed player #19 of the team “A” to the referee chair and disqualified him for having beaten an opponent. (1<sup>st</sup> referee saw this action during the tumultuous situation). Then, the 1<sup>st</sup> referee called the player #9 of the team “B” to the referee chair and sanctioned him with a Penalty, due to his action of hitting the ball after the whistle. These were the only sanctions. How can the referee manage this action, when the complete team is involved in a kind of “attempted aggression”?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>The 1<sup>st</sup> referee applied correctly the sanction rule and the sequence of sanctions when two opponents had unsportsmanlike behaviour.</p> <p>It is obvious that the player who committed the physical attack against the opponent should be immediately disqualified. However, the behaviour of the spiker hitting the ball towards the opponent after the whistle of the 1<sup>st</sup> referee should be considered as rude conduct.</p> <p>In such situations the heavier sanction should be issued first, then the other one. Should both sanctions be equal in weight, the serving team is punished first.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 21.2.1, 21.2.3</b></p>
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<p><b>9.11 VIDEO</b></p> <p>The team B requested a substitution after the whistle for service, and it was rejected correctly by the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee. The game did not stop and the rally started. However, the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee instead of observing the game, was still busy with the scorer, checking if he realised the improper request. After the end of the rally the team B immediately repeated the request for substitution, but the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee went to the scorer to consult about the administration of the improper request. Meanwhile the substitution was</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>No.</p> <p>In such situations the improper request should be recorded first, then the substitution may be applied under the control of the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee would have to stop the substitute player. If he did not do it, the 1<sup>st</sup> referee would have to do it.</p> <p>It is recommended that after a rejected substitution the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee should be prepared mentally for a repeated request after the end of the rally and must know the correct sequence.</p>
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applied without any control by the referees. Was this a correct procedure by the referees?	
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<p><b>9.12 VIDEO</b></p> <p>Before the start of a set the 2nd referee checked Team A's player numbers against the line-up sheet but missed the fact that this team was starting several places round from what the line-up sheet showed. The players on court were the correct ones, but their rotation was not according to the rotational order determined by the line-up sheet. The match started with Team A receiving.</p> <p>After team A gained the service at score 1-0, their first service in the set became faulty, but the incorrect server of Team A was not signalled by the scorer. Two rallies later, with the score now at 2-2, again an incorrect Team A server hit the ball. This time the rotational fault was immediately signalled by the scorer.</p> <p>What should the referees do in order to continue the set correctly?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>Before the start of a set the 2nd referee must check not only the player numbers on court, but also their placement/rotation. The line-up sheet shows the positions the teams must occupy at the start of the set.</p> <p>When an incorrect server hits the ball, i.e. a rotational fault has been committed, the point and next service goes to the opponent, no matter what was the "result" of this rally. The team positions are corrected, then the match continues. If the fault is discovered later in the set and the score when the rotational fault was committed can be determined, all further points scored by the team at fault should be deleted.</p> <p>In this case 2 rotational faults were committed by Team A and it was possible to determine the score of the first rotational fault (1-0). Therefore, only a single point should be deducted from Team A. A point and service to the opponent is to be awarded.</p> <p>The match should continue at 1-3 with Team B serving.</p> <p>The 2nd referee is obliged to supervise carefully the correction of the Team A line-up to avoid any further fault with the positions/rotation.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rules 7.7.2, 24.3.1., 25.2.2.2.</b></p>
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<p><b>9.13 (new) VIDEO</b></p> <p>After a dig by team A the ball went high around the antenna and it was supposed to land close to the side line. It was difficult to determine if the path was within the crossing space or over the antenna. A player from team A was running under the net to replay the ball. Meanwhile a player from team B was also ready to play close to the side line. However, the 2 players almost collided with each other, the player of team B played the ball successfully and the rally continued. How should it be determined if a fault has been committed and in this case which player was at fault?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>The crucial point is the trajectory of the ball.</p> <p>Option 1: if the ball clearly passed the net plane within the antennae, i.e. through the crossing space, team A had no right to replay it. It means the running player of team A interfered with the opponent's play and made a fault regardless, if the opponent successfully hit the ball.</p> <p>Option 2: if the ball clearly passed the net plane over or outside the antennae, i.e. partly or totally outside of the crossing space, team A had the right to replay it. In this case the team B's player interfered with the opponent's play and made a fault regardless of whether the opponent successfully hit the ball.</p> <p>Option 3: if the ball's trajectory was in doubt, and neither referees, nor line judges could determine this, both players may legally think, that their action to try to play the ball is legal. <b>It is impossible to determine the faulty player. In such a situation,</b></p>
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	<p>when the player hitting the ball is not interfered in playing the ball <b>it is worth not stopping the rally</b>. However if in this option the player is really influenced by the opponent in playing the ball, the rally should be stopped and to replay.</p>
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<p><b>9.14 (new) VIDEO</b></p> <p>After a player’s dig the ball rebounded high and flown behind the end line. The Libero run to replay it. Although he hit the ball, but due to a crane camera which had penetrated into the playing space his hit was not successful. Neither the ball, nor the player hit the crane. The coach approached the cameraman and vehemently protested the case. By the 1<sup>st</sup> referee’s decision the rally was won by the opponent team and the coach was warned with a yellow card. Was the situation handled well?</p>	<p><b>Ruling:</b></p> <p>Regarding the technical aspect the 1<sup>st</sup> referee had a wrong approach.          Within the playing area the players have the priority to play. If an outside object or a person penetrating from outside the playing area, e.g. the crane TV camera or a journalist reaching in to catch the ball, interferes his/her play it should be considered as “external interference” and the rally should be replayed. The interference means not only a physical contact!          On the video the Libero was not able to play the ball successfully due to the near crane camera therefore this should be considered as an "external interference" and the rally was to be replayed.          Regarding the misconduct by the coach it was correct decision by the 1<sup>st</sup> referee.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 17.2 , 21.1</b></p>
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<p><b>9.15 (new) VIDEO</b></p> <p>The ball rebounded from the blocker of team A, hit the attacker’s hand, went to the side band on team B’s side, then landed on the court. The 1st referee decided the action as a successful block, his hand signal was BALL IN and the next serving team was team A. The team B requested a video check (challenge) for “Antenna touch”. The video proved, that the ball clearly hit the side band AND the antenna. Unfortunately the player who hit last the ball was not shown and the 1st referee confirmed his original decision. The coach of team B vehemently protested at the 2nd referee. A warning second stage (yellow card) was issued for him.</p> <p>Was it a correct decision and was the situation handled well?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>No. Even though the decision for the next service was correct, but the base of decision was a misinterpretation and the discipline of coach was wrong handled.          If the ball hits only the side band, the action is legal. But if the ball hits the antenna as well, it is already a fault.          In practice if the hit into the side band/antenna changes the natural rebound (direction) of the ball, it is a clear indication that it has hit something solid, like the antenna, although in reality it has not “contacted” the antenna because the side band prevented the physical contact.          Because the ball from the attacker touched the side band AND the antenna, it became OUT immediately before it landed, i.e. hand signal should be OUT and indicate the player of team B.          Regarding the misconduct by the coach this behavior exceeded the normal human reaction. The challenge regulation stipulates, that the team should accept the result of the video check and the referee’s decision. The behavior should be considered as rude conduct and should be penalized (red card). The referee should not allow the coaches to do a show by continuing their protest. In certain cases (as on the video) referees must be stricter when applying discipline rules.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Rule 6.1.1.2., 8.4.3., 21.2</b></p>
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<p><b>10.1</b> Three substitute players entered the substitution zone. After the request was recognized and acknowledged by the scorer, and the horn sounded, the coach decided to make only two substitutions. What is the procedure for the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> This is legal as long as this does not cause a delay. Therefore, the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee simply carries out a double substitution. However, the scorer must pay attention to which combination of players actually occurs and must not press “accept all” in this instance. <b>Rules 15.10.2, 15.10.3a, 15.10.4, 16.1</b></p>
<p><b>10.2</b> Data for two substitutions was sent by the coach. One substitute player entered the substitution zone while another one was just leaving the warm-up area to try to enter the substitution zone. How many substitutions should be allowed under the current rules?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The moment of the request is the entrance of the substitute player(s) into the substitution zone. In this case the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee should grant only the one for the player who actually entered the substitution zone. The second action should be rejected as not a real request. In such a situation the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee has the right to wave away the player trying to enter the substitution zone in order to prevent an improper request. With such action the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee understood very well what is the "art of refereeing". Since the result of the next rally may cause the coach to change his mind, the data for the disallowed substitution will be deleted. Should he wish to make a new request for substitution involving this player, he would need to send the data again. In this case the scorer should only accept the one substitution on the e-score computer, and not press “accept all”. <b>Rules 15.10.3a, 15.10.3b, 15.11.1.3</b></p>
<p><b>10.3</b> A substitution was “requested” by a team, by transmitting the data by Tablet, then sending the player into the substitution zone. Because the player was not ready to play (track suit), his team was sanctioned with a delay warning and the substitution was rejected. As soon as the delay sanction was applied, the team again requested the substitution. Was it allowed to make this second request during the same interruption?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The substitution was not legal and therefore not allowed. As the first request for substitution was rejected, the team was not authorized to request a second consecutive substitution in the same interruption. At least one rally must be completed before there can be another request for substitution by the same team. However, a penalty awarded against either team at this moment counts as a completed rally. <b>Rule 15.3.2</b></p>

<p><b>10.4 (10.5/2018)</b></p> <p>Using the Tablet, the coach transmits data for a substitution but the substitute player steps into the substitution zone just as the whistle sounds for service, should the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee permit the substitution?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>First the e-score requires the scorer to press the “start rally” button immediately the 1<sup>st</sup> referee whistles for service to prevent requests for substitution and time out. If the scorer has omitted to press start rally button and sounds the horn, he/she has a responsibility not to sound the horn if the 1st referee has already blown the whistle.</p> <p>Secondly the request for substitution is always the moment of entry of the player into the substitution zone, regardless of the method employed or which scoring method is in use.</p> <p>If the data for substitution is transmitted in time and the horn is sounded, the 1<sup>st</sup> referee has to wait with the whistle for service. If the substitute player(s) is about to enter the substitution zone or already there, the request should be allowed.</p> <p>If there is no player about to enter the substitution zone, it means no request was given. The 1<sup>st</sup> referee has the right to whistle for the next service. If the player enters in this moment the substitution zone, this should be considered as improper request: to reject it and allow the game to continue, if the game has not been stopped and it was the first improper request for this team.</p> <p>However, if the game has been stopped due to this request (e.g. the player on court goes to the substitution zone or the teams wait for the referee’s decision, etc.) it should be considered as delay. The substitution should not be granted, and a warning or penalty for delay will result.</p> <p>The same procedure should be followed if it was a repeated improper request by this team - this is considered as delay.</p> <p><b>Rules 15.10.3a, 16.2., Refereeing Guidelines 15.2.1</b></p>
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<p><b>10.5 (10.6/2018)</b></p> <p>A player became injured and had to be substituted exceptionally. During the same game interruption, the team transmitted data and sent in a player to the substitution zone – i.e. they requested an additional substitution during the interruption. The 2<sup>nd</sup> referee accepted the request. Was the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee’s decision correct to accept the request?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>Yes, the decision was correct.</p> <p>The first player had to be substituted by an exceptional substitution due to injury. The team still had the right to REQUEST a substitution in the same interruption.</p> <p><b>Rule 15.7</b></p>
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<p><b>10.6 (10.7/2018)</b></p> <p>A player listed on the line - up transmitted by the team was injured before the start of the match. Can he be substituted before the match?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b></p> <p>Yes – but it should be shown formally by substitution signal (coach and 2<sup>nd</sup> referee so that everyone understands the situation) and must be recorded on the e - score sheet as a regular substitution.</p> <p><b>Rules 7.3.2, 7.3.4</b></p>
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<p><b>10.7 (10.8/2018)</b> A player arrived in correct time in the substitution zone – but no data had been transmitted. How is this handled?</p>	<p><b>Ruling</b> The official request for substitution is when the substitute player(s) enter the substitution zone. Therefore, the scorer, before any action, should check if the request is legal. If it is, he should accept the request manually. If the request is illegal, it should be rejected and the referees have to follow the respective rules. <b>Rules 15.5.1, 16.1.3</b></p>
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## APPENDIX

Here the cases are listed with the numbers of the concerning rules. The case numbers are hyperlinked with the cases, and from the cases you can come back to this appendix.

Case number	Rule (1)	Rule (2)	Rule (3)	Rule (4)	Rule (5)	Rule (6)	Rule (7)
<b>WEARING FORBIDDEN OBJECTS</b>							
<a href="#">1.01</a>	4.5.1	4.5.3					
<a href="#">1.02</a>	4.5.1						
<b>CAPTAIN</b>							
<a href="#">1.03</a>	5.1.2	20.1	20.2	21.2	21.3.1		
<a href="#">1.04</a>	5.1.2.2						
<a href="#">1.05</a>	5.1.2.1	20.2.1					
<a href="#">1.06</a>	5.1.2.1	23.2.4					
<b>COACH, ASSISTANT COACH</b>							
<a href="#">1.07</a>							
<a href="#">1.08</a>	5.1.2	5.2.3.4	21.1	21.2	21.3		
<a href="#">1.09</a>	5.2.1	5.2.3.3	5.3.1				
<a href="#">1.10</a>	5.2.3.4						
<a href="#">1.11</a>							
<a href="#">1.12</a>	4.2.4	5.3.1					
<a href="#">1.13</a>	Guidelines and Instructions						
<a href="#">1.13.1</a>	4.1.1						
<a href="#">1.13.2</a>							
<b>THE UNIFORM</b>							
<a href="#">1.14</a>	4.3.3						
<a href="#">1.15</a>	4.5.3						
<a href="#">1.16</a>							
<b>POSITION AND ROTATIONAL FAULTS</b>							
<a href="#">2.01</a>	7.4	7.4.2	7.4.3				
<a href="#">2.02</a>	7.4.3	7.5					
<a href="#">2.03</a>	1.3.3	7.4					
<a href="#">2.04</a>							
<a href="#">2.05</a>	7.3.1	7.5	12.3	12.4.3			
<a href="#">2.06</a>	7.7.1						
<a href="#">2.07</a>	1.3.3	7.4					
<b>PLAYING THE BALL</b>							
<a href="#">3.01</a>	10.1.2	10.1.2.2					
<a href="#">3.02</a>	9.2.1	9.2.2	9.3.3	9.3.4			
<a href="#">3.03</a>	9.2.3.2	14.2	Guidelines and Instructions				
<a href="#">3.04</a>	9.2.2						
<a href="#">3.05</a>	9	9.1.3	10.1.2				
<a href="#">3.06</a>	9	9.1.3					
<a href="#">3.07</a>	Guidelines and Instructions						
<a href="#">3.08</a>	10.1.2						
<a href="#">3.09</a>	8.4.1	8.4.2	9.1	10.1.2	10.1.2.1	10.1.2.2	
<a href="#">3.10</a>	9						
<a href="#">3.11</a>	10.1.2.2						
<a href="#">3.11.1</a>	10.1.2.2						
<a href="#">3.11.2</a>	6.1.1.2	8.4.3					

PENETRATION UNDER THE NET							
<a href="#">3.12</a>	11.2.1	11.2.2.1	11.2.4				
<a href="#">3.13</a>	11.2.1						
<a href="#">3.14</a>	11.2.2						
PLAYER AT OR CONTACTING THE NET							
<a href="#">3.15</a>	9.1.2.2	9.1.2.3					
<a href="#">3.16</a>	11.3.1	11.4.4					
<a href="#">3.17</a>	11.3.1	11.4.4					
<a href="#">3.18</a>	11.3.1	11.4.4					
<a href="#">3.19</a>	11.3.1	11.4.4					
<a href="#">3.20</a>	11.3.1	11.4.4					
<a href="#">3.21</a>	11.3.1	11.3.2	11.4.4				
<a href="#">3.22</a>	11.3.1	11.4.4					
<a href="#">3.23</a>	11.3.1	11.4.4					
<a href="#">3.24</a>	11.3.1	11.4.4					
<a href="#">3.25</a>	11.3.1	11.4.4					
<a href="#">3.26</a>	11.3.1	20.2.1					
<a href="#">3.26.1</a>	11.3.1						
<a href="#">3.26.2</a>	11.2.1						
<a href="#">3.26.3</a>	11.4.4						
SERVICE							
<a href="#">3.27</a>	7.71	12.2.1	12.7.1	25.2.2.2			
<a href="#">3.28</a>	12.4.4						
<a href="#">3.29</a>	12.4.2						
<a href="#">3.30</a>	8.4.3	23.3.2.3.i	24.3.2.8	27.2.1.3			
<a href="#">3.31</a>	12.6.2.1						
<a href="#">3.32</a>	12.4.1,	12.6.1.2					
ATTACK HIT							
<a href="#">3.33</a>	13.1.3						
<a href="#">3.34</a>	13.1.1	14.3	Guidelines and Instructions				
<a href="#">3.35</a>	9.1	13.1.3	13.2.2	13.3.3			
<a href="#">3.36</a>	13.3.4	19.3.1.3					
BLOCK							
<a href="#">3.37</a>	14.1.1	14.1.3	14.6.2				
<a href="#">3.38</a>	14.1.1	14.3					
<a href="#">3.39</a>	14.1.1						
<a href="#">3.40</a>	11.2.1						
<a href="#">3.41</a>	11.1.2	14.1.1	14.2	14.3			
<a href="#">3.42</a>							
<a href="#">3.43</a>	9.1	14.2	14.4.1				
<a href="#">3.44</a>	13.3.1	13.3.3	14.1.1	14.6.1	14.6.2		
<a href="#">3.45</a>	9.3.1	14.1.1					
<a href="#">3.46</a>	9.1	14.1.1	14.4.1				
<a href="#">3.47</a>	9.1	14.1.1	14.4.1				
<a href="#">3.48</a>	19.3.1.3						
<a href="#">3.49</a>							
<a href="#">3.50</a>							
<a href="#">3.51</a>							
<a href="#">3.52</a>							
<a href="#">3.53</a>							
<a href="#">3.54</a>							



<b>SUBSTITUTIONS</b>							
<u>4.01</u>	15.10.2	15.10.3a	15.10.4	16.1			
<u>4.02</u>	15.10.3a	15.10.3b	15.11.1.3				
<u>4.04</u>	15.10.3a	16.1.1	16.2				
<u>4.05</u>	15.10.3a	15.11.1.1	15.11.3	16.2			
<u>4.06</u>	16.1.1	16.2					
<u>4.07</u>	15.7						
<u>4.08</u>	15.7	15.8					
<u>4.09</u>	7.3.2	7.3.4					
<u>4.10</u>	15.9.2						
<u>4.11</u>	15.5	15.6	15.11	16.1			
<u>4.12</u>	15.6	16.1.3					
<u>4.13</u>							
<u>4.14</u>	16.1.1	23.2.3					
<u>4.15</u>	7.3.5.2	7.3.5.3					
<u>4.16</u>	15.10.3a	15.10.3c	16.1.1				
<u>4.17</u>	15.11.2	16.1.1					
<u>4.18</u>	15.10.3a	15.10.3c					
<u>4.19</u>	4.1.3	4.2.2	5.1.1	5.2.2	7.3.5.4	15.9.2	
<u>4.20</u>	15.2.2						
<u>4.21</u>	7.3.5.2						
<u>4.22</u>	6.1.3	15	15.2.1	15.11.1.3			
<u>4.22.1</u>	Guidelines and Instructions						
<u>4.22.2</u>	15.10.3a,	15.10.3b.					
<b>TO/TTO</b>							
<u>4.23</u>	15.4.1						
<u>4.24</u>	15.4.2						
<b>IMPROPER REQUEST</b>							
<u>4.25</u>	15.3.1	15.3.2	15.10.3a	15.11.1.3	25.2.2.6		
<u>4.26</u>	15.11.1.4	16.1.5	25.2.2.6				
<u>4.27</u>	15.5	16.1					
<u>4.27.1</u>	Guidelines and Instructions						
<b>INJURIES</b>							
<u>4.28</u>	4.4	15.5	15.10.2	15.10.3a	17.1.1		
<u>4.29</u>	15.7	17.1.2					
<u>4.30</u>	15.11.1.3						
<u>4.31</u>	4.1.3	5.1	5.2.1	5.2.2	19.4.2.5	25.2.2.7	
<u>4.32</u>	15.11.1.3						
<u>4.33</u>	15.10.1	17.1.1					
<b>DELAYS TO THE GAME</b>							
<u>4.34</u>	6.4.1	16.1					
<u>4.35</u>	16.1.2	16.1.5					
<u>4.36</u>	1.5	5.1.2.2	6.4.1	16.2			
<u>4.37</u>	4.2	6.4.1	6.4.2	18.1			
<b>EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE</b>							
<u>4.38</u>	17.2	17.3					
<u>4.39</u>	17.2						
<u>4.40</u>	17.2						
<u>4.41</u>	17.2						
<u>4.42</u>	17.2						

<b>LIBERO</b>								
<u>5.01</u>	19.3.2.4	19.3.2.8	24.3.1					
<u>5.02</u>	6.4.3	15.7	15.8					
<u>5.03</u>	15.5	15.7	17					
<u>5.04</u>	6.4.3	19.1.1	19.3.2	19.3.2.8	19.4			
<u>5.05</u>	15.3.2	19.3.2	19.3.2.8					
<u>5.06</u>	19.3.2.5							
<u>5.07</u>	19.3.2.1	19.3.2.9	23.2.3					
<u>5.08</u>	19.1.3	19.3.2.2	19.3.2.8	19.4.2				
<u>5.09</u>	5.2.3.4							
<u>5.10</u>	19.3.2.1	19.3.2.2						
<u>5.12</u>	5	19.2	19.3.2.8	19.4.2.5				
<u>5.13</u>	19.3.2.9	23.2.3						
<u>5.14</u>	19.3.2.1							
<u>5.15</u>	19.3.2.1	19.3.2.8						
<u>5.16</u>	19.3.2.8	Diag. 1						
<u>5.17</u>	19.3.2.1							
<u>5.18</u>	19.3.2.2	19.3.2.8						
<u>5.19</u>	19.1.2							
<u>5.20</u>	19.2							
<u>5.21</u>	14.1.1	14.1.2	14.1.3					
<u>5.22</u>	6.1.3	19.3.2.1	19.3.2					
<u>5.23</u>	19.3.2.8	19.4.2.1	19.4.2.4					
<u>5.24</u>	15.5.1	15.7	16.1.3	19.2				
<u>5.25</u>	19.4.2.1	19.4.2.2						
<u>5.26</u>	13.3.6	19.3.1.4						
<u>5.27</u>	13.3.1.1	26.2.2.1	26.2.2.2					
<b>PARTICIPANTS' CONDUCT</b>								
<u>6.01</u>	21.1	21.2						
<u>6.02</u>	21.2.1	21.3						
<u>6.03</u>	5.2	21.1	21.2	21.3				
<u>6.04</u>	21.5							
<u>6.05</u>	21.2	21.2.1	21.3	Guidelines and Instructions				
<u>6.06</u>	21.1	21.2	21.3					
<u>6.07</u>	21							
<u>6.08</u>								
<u>6.09</u>	6.4.3	15.8						
<b>REFEREES RESPONSABILITIES</b>								
<u>7.01</u>	23.3.2.2							
<u>7.02</u>	4.2.1	4.2.3	24.2.4	24.2.5				
<u>7.03</u>	25.2.2							
<u>7.04</u>	5.1.2.1	5.1.3.2	23.2.4					
<u>7.05</u>								
<u>7.06</u>	15.1	15.2.1	15.11	16.1	16.2	24.2.6	24.2.7	
<u>7.07</u>	15.4.4							
<u>7.08</u>	5.2.3.4	5.3.1						
<u>7.09</u>	5.1.2							
<u>7.10</u>	24.7	Guidelines and Instructions						
<u>7.11</u>	23.2.1							

<b>SPECIAL CASES</b>							
<u>8.01</u>							
<u>8.02</u>	17.2						
<u>8.03</u>	17.3.2.2						
<u>8.04</u>	9.1.3						
<u>8.05</u>							
<u>8.06</u>							
<b>EXTENDED CASES</b>							
<u>9.01</u>	14.3						
<u>9.02</u>	13.3.1	14.1.1	14.6.2				
<u>9.03</u>							
<u>9.04</u>	15.3.1	15.3.2	15.10.3	15.11.1.3	16.1.1	16.1.2	25.2.2.6
<u>9.05</u>	19.3.2.1	23.2.3					
<u>9.06</u>	19.3.1.4						
<u>9.07</u>	5.1.2.1						
<u>9.08</u>	25.2.2.1	26.2.2.5	25.2.2.6	21	25.2.2.7		
<u>9.09</u>							
<u>9.10</u>	21.2.1	21.2.3					
<u>9.11</u>							
<u>9.12</u>	7.7.2	24.3.1	25.2.2.2				
<u>9.13</u>							
<u>9.14</u>	17.2	21.1					
<u>9.15</u>	6.1.1.2	8.4.3	21.2				

<b>USING TABLET CASES</b>							
<u>10.1</u>	15.10.2	15.10.3a	15.10.4	16.1			
<u>10.2</u>	15.10.3a	15.10.3b	15.11.1.3				
<u>10.3</u>	15.3.2						
<u>10.4</u>	15.10.3a	16.2					
<u>10.5</u>	15.7						
<u>10.6</u>	7.3.2	7.3.4					
<u>10.7</u>							

