MEMORANDUM

September 17, 2013

TO:  Head Women’s Volleyball Coaches.

FROM:  Anne Pufahl, secretary-rules editor
        NCAA Women’s Volleyball Rules Committee.

SUBJECT: Solid-Colored Jersey Rule.

The solid-colored jersey rule was passed by the NCAA Women’s Volleyball Rules Committee in 2011. It has been listed in the 2011 and 2012-2013 Rule Book. It was also covered in detail on the coaches’ video in 2011, 2012 and 2013. Last year, the detailed specifications of the solid-colored jersey rule were reviewed at the AVCA convention during the Division I, II and III coaches’ meetings. In March of 2012, a webinar was held with volleyball uniform manufacturers to cover all aspects of the rule. Yet there is still confusion regarding the exact specifications of the solid-colored jersey rule.

Due to this confusion, the decision was made to push back the implementation of the solid-colored jersey rule until November 1, 2013. On November 1, your team must be in compliance with the solid-colored jersey rule. If your team is not in compliance, your team will have to play without a libero until you comply with the rule. This delayed implementation gives each institution over a month to comply with the rule. The referees have been instructed to continue to ask your team to comply prior to the November 1 deadline if possible. And, the referees will continue to report any non-compliant institution to the NCAA secretary-rules editor (SRE). The SRE will only send one notification to each non-compliant institution that is reported. It is the responsibility of each institution to comply with the NCAA rules, whether or not they received notification from the SRE.

I have re-posted the solid-colored jersey rules below. The issues regarding libero jerseys have been a universal problem for years. – All three major rules codes (NFHS, USAV, NCAA) have adopted this same language. Prior to passing the rule below in 2011, the Women’s Volleyball Rules Committee distributed a point of emphasis for three years that emphasized the rules language that required the libero’s uniform to be “in contrast to and distinct from” her teammates. A significant number of schools still failed to make a change and, as a result, a more stringent rule was established.
Please feel free to contact me should any questions arise.

Have a great season.

AP:bw

Enclosure

12.1.3.1 Solid Color Uniforms: Beginning in the 2013 season, it will be required that either the libero or her teammates wear a solid color jersey. The solid-colored uniform must clearly contrast from the predominant color(s) of the teammate(s) jerseys. Predominant colors are those that appear on approximately half of the teammates jersey.

Regarding the solid color jersey:
12.1.3.2 The libero shirt or jersey must have a visible legal number. (See Rule 7.1.2.)
12.1.3.3 The style and trim of the libero’s shirt or jersey may differ from her teammates’, but her shorts must be identical to her teammates’.
12.1.3.4 Sleeves must be the same color as the body of the jersey.
12.1.3.5 Piping/trim not exceeding 1 inch in total at its widest point may be placed along the seams and be a different color(s) than the uniform top.
12.1.3.6 Lettering and collars can be a different color than the body of the jersey.
12.1.3.7 Numbers must be a contrasting color and meet all other specifications in rule 7.1.2