



MEMORANDUM

April 1, 2016

VIA EMAIL

TO: Head Coaches and Senior Woman Administrators at Institutions that Sponsor
NCAA Beach Volleyball.

FROM: Marilyn Moniz-Kaho'ohanohano, chair
NCAA Women's Beach Volleyball Committee.

SUBJECT: Rule Clarifications.

As the beach volleyball season is nearing the midway point, there are some areas within the rules that the committee would like to clarify as the season finishes. These clarifications revolve around uniforms, lineups and coaching.

Uniforms

With regard to uniforms, as it is stated in the rule, "A player's equipment consists of shorts or briefs. A jersey or "tank-top" is required." To clarify what is a brief, the committee confirms that a brief must be a short with at least a one inch inseam. Examples of acceptable briefs are:



It should be noted that each competitor must wear an official team uniform with components governed by the rules or be subject to disqualification.

Lineups and Substitutions

Current rules state the following with regard to lineups and substitutions:

Coaches are responsible to position their teams in order of ability for ALL matches from the first match of the season to the last match of the season.

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- a. Within this rule, line-up changes are restricted to one position up or down from one event to another.
- b. If a player is injured and misses one or more matches, she returns to the line-up in her old position, and may be moved from there in subsequent matches as permitted by the NCAA Rule modifications on page 4: 9.2 Substitutions: Line-up Rule a.
- c. The one-up/one-down regulation (Rule a.) applies to pairs events also (i.e., a #1 team cannot play in the #3 spot or vice-versa).
- d. Transfers at quarter break or student-athletes joining the sand team from the court team after the beach season has started should be placed in the line-up by ability.
- e. Team that has an insufficient number of players. A team appearing with an insufficient number of players shall default matches at the bottom of the line-up. If the No. 1 doubles team is not available to compete, all doubles teams must move up one position. The No. 1 doubles match cannot be forfeited. The minimum number of players for a dual-meet match is six physically able players. A team that does not meet this minimum must forfeit the match.

Substitutions

Line-up substitutions should be communicated to the official referee as soon as they are determined and, at the latest, one hour before the start of play on a given day, or 15 minutes before a match is to begin if made during the same day. The head referee will share the line-up changes with the opponents as soon as possible.

- a. For purposes of line-up changes, a dual match and a bracket pairs tournament are different events, even if played on the same day or at the same site on simultaneous days.
- b. A coach may make line-up changes based on injury or performance from one event to another as long as they stay within the one position parameter (Line-up Rule a.) for moving players.

The committee is issuing the following clarifications with regard to lineups and substitutions:

1. Line-ups.
 - Coaches shall have, at minimum, the team's line-up from its four most recent matches played for reference should any line-up questions arise.

2. Head Referee Responsibility - Line-ups.

- a. Referee shall ensure that line-ups have been exchanged a minimum of one hour prior to commencement of the match.
- b. Referee shall immediately notify the head coach of any change in the initial lineup, which is permissible only up to 15 minutes prior to the commencement of the match .
- c. Disputes. Should disagreements arise between competing coaches related to the line-up, the referee shall ensure that:
 - i. For any such dispute to be recognized, the dispute is made clear to the referee prior to the commencement of the match.
 - ii. The referee shall meet with both coaches, clarify the dispute, and offer the opportunity to resolve the dispute through explanation and/or adjustment to the line-up.
 - iii. Should resolution not be reached prior to commencement of the match, the dispute shall be noted for the record by the referee so that he/she will be able to answer any questions about the meeting between the coaches; if a dispute is recorded, the head coach who believes that a rule violation is being committed shall email the details of the dispute to NCAA Beach Volleyball Liaison, Kristin Fasbender, at kfasbender@ncaa.org within 48 hours of the commencement of the match.

3. Injury [NCAA Rule modifications on page 4: 9.2 Substitutions: Line-up Rule b].

- a. Not Cleared to Play. If a player is removed from the line-up due to "injury" per Line-up rule (b), it will be deemed that the player is "not cleared to play." The health concern that led to a player being not cleared to play shall be the head coach's determination.
- b. Application to Player. The rule requiring the player to return to the line-up in the same position last played shall apply to the player, not to the pair.

4. Not cleared to play [as cited in Clarification No. 3].

- a. Exhibition. If a player is not cleared to play in a match, then that player shall not be eligible to compete in that match (i.e., cannot play in an exhibition slot).
- b. Discipline. If a player is not cleared to play due to team or institutional discipline, that player shall be treated as "injured" (i.e., not cleared to play) for the purpose of this rule.

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Coaching

As it is stated in the rules, two coaches, plus one coach designated by the institution as a volunteer, may be active in the event. These three coaches and the two student-athletes are the only team personnel that are allowed in the bench area on each court. These coaches shall be designated before the doubles matches and listed on the line-up sheet.

Thank you for your attention to these rules. We are excited for the inaugural NCAA Beach Volleyball Championship and look forward to a successful end to the season.

MM:pjw

cc: NCAA Women's Beach Volleyball Committee
Conference Commissioners that Sponsor NCAA Beach Volleyball