



MEMORANDUM

March 17, 2017

VIA EMAIL

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

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

Katy Meyer  
NC Beach Volleyball Head Referee and Rules Interpreter.

SUBJECT: NCAA Rules Modifications Interpretations.

---

*It is important to note that Questions 1, 2, and 2a below involve the judgement of the first referee.*

---

**Question 1:** Can a blocker redirect an overpass or set that comes over the net?

**NCAA Interpretation:** The language of the rules does not reference the word *redirect* or *directional* at any time. A player deemed to be a blocker may legally block any ball that enters the plane of the net from the opponent's side\*. Blocked balls may rebound in any direction; however, if the blocker clearly catches or throws the ball, they may be whistled for a fault. Finally, "directional" or "snap" blocks are legal, unless they are caught or thrown.

*\*additional considerations apply if the attacked ball is a team's 3<sup>rd</sup> contact.*

---

**Question 2:** If an attacker takes a hard swing at the ball and the ball hits the net slowing down the pace of the ball coming over, is it still considered hard driven? In other words what determines a hard driven ball and what factors determine hard driven and non-hard driven?

**NCAA Interpretation:** It may be. At the outset, in determining whether or not an attacked ball is "hard driven", the official must consider both the *speed* and *trajectory* of the attacked ball. While it is possible that the speed (slows down the pace) and trajectory (becomes arched) *may* be affected by the contact with the net (or even a block), it does NOT necessarily render an attacked ball not hard-driven.

**Follow-up Question 2a:** Whereas a defender can perform an overhead dig?

**NCAA Interpretation:** If the first team contact is defensive in nature (dig) and is executed with finger action, the first referee must also consider the **distance between the attacker and defender** and **whether or not the defensive action was "reactive"/a "reaction"**

---

National Collegiate Athletic Association

*Supporting student-athlete success on the field, in the classroom and for life*

Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

(double allowed) or **"intentional handset"/a "decision"** (not allowed if double-contacted).

---

### **Alternates and Lineups**

- NCAA Definitions: An *alternate* is defined as any player not a part of the 1-5 pairs.
- An alternate may initially enter the lineup in any position (1-5). Upon removal from the line-up, the alternate is then limited to returning to the lineup in either of the following two scenarios:
  - a. She may return to the position into which she originally entered the lineup; or
  - b. She may return in the five (5) position.

NOTE: Please also reference the *2017 NCAA Beach Volleyball - Regular Season Dual Match Lineup Form* and *Lineup Form Examples* which were distributed on Monday, March 6 in the [DI Coaches Newsletter](#) or visit the National Collegiate Beach Volleyball (W) landing page at <http://www.ncaa.org/championships/national-collegiate-beach-volleyball-w>.

MM/KM:pjw

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