



2023-24 NFHS VOLLEYBALL RULES INTERPRETATIONS

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SITUATION 1: During warm-ups, the official notices a player on Team A wearing (a) circular ear-stretching gauges in each earlobe; (b) an industrial ear piercing (1-inch bar through both sides of the top part of the ear). The official notifies the coach of Team A that the player must remove the jewelry. **RULING:** Correct procedure. **COMMENT:** Small, secured stud or post jewelry worn above the chin are allowed. Ear-stretching gauges are circular in nature and industrial gauges are not considered "small" post jewelry. Both are noncompliant jewelry. (4-1-7, 4-1 PENALTIES 1)

SITUATION 2: To start the match and each set, the second referee uses the scorebook to check the lineups and returns it to the officials' table. **RULING:** Incorrect procedure. **COMMENT:** The lineup card is a required piece of equipment for the second referee and must be used to record starting lineups. The use of the card to track additional information is at the discretion of the second referee. (5-3-2b)

SITUATION 3: Team A and Team B request substitutions on the same dead ball. An assistant coach for Team A stands within the coaching zone to provide instructions to the setter and im-

mediately sits down on the team bench. A different assistant coach for Team A then stands within the coaching zone to provide instructions to the entire team and returns to the bench before the R1 signals for serve. **RULING:** Legal. **COMMENT:** One assistant coach may stand within the coaching zone at a time to provide instruction during dead-ball situations only. The assistant coach who stands may change within the same dead ball and throughout the match. The second referee is responsible for ensuring that only one assistant coach is standing at a time and returning to the bench before play begins. [5-5-3b(11), 12-2-6]