

Competition Rules

Chapter

3



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DOMESTIC COMPETITION REGULATIONS

The 200-2010 USA Volleyball Domestic Competition Regulations will be in effect throughout the season and for the 2010 NCVF Collegiate Club Volleyball Championships (see: <http://volleyball.teamusa.org/content/index/2495> to download the Domestic Competition Regulations). Participants, coaches and team representatives in the Championships are subject to and must obey ALL rules, regulations and policies of USA Volleyball herein or otherwise written.

Modifications for the NCVF Collegiate Club Volleyball Championships

1. The Libero Player will be allowed to serve in one position in the rotation.
 - *Rule 19.3.1.3 - He/she may **not serve**, block or attempt to block, **is modified** to allow the Libero to serve in one position in the rotation. The implementation of this modification will follow the procedures used when playing by NCAA Women's Volleyball Rules.*
 - *Rule 19.1.1 - Each team may designate one specialized defensive player (Libero) per set applies.*
2. In extraordinary circumstances, a team may play with five players and a ghost.
 - *Rule 7.3.1 - There must always be six players per team in play. The team's starting line-up indicates the rotational order of the players on the court. This order must be maintained throughout the set. This rule **is modified** so if due to injury or other extraordinary circumstances, a team may play with five players and **one** ghost. The Director of Competition will make the determination if extraordinary circumstances exist. The expulsion or disqualification of a player does not constitute extraordinary circumstances.*
 - *Rule 7.3.1.1 - If the team elects to proceed with five players and one ghost, the rotational order of the six player lineup must be maintained.*
 - *Rule 7.3.1.2 - When a team elects to proceed with five players and one ghost, and the ghost (missing player) position rotates to serve in position No. 1, a point and service is immediately awarded to the opponent.*

PROTEST OF PLAYING RULES / DUE PROCESS AND APPEALS

Protests of the playing rules during a set / match shall be handled by a committee of 1-3 members, each of whom must be a certified USA National referee or scorekeeper, depending on the nature of the protest. The committee shall consist of the following:

1. Head Referee for the Event
2. The Director of Competition
3. A representative of the Championship Committee.

All rulings of this committee are final and not subject to appeal. All protests will be settled at the time they are lodged. No match will be allowed to proceed until the protest is settled. Protests can **ONLY** be related to the rules of play. Judgment calls are NOT subject to protest.

The following are examples of what may be protested:

- misinterpretation of a playing rule
- failure of the first referee to apply the correct Rule to a given situation
- failure to apply the correct penalty / sanction for a given fault

Due Process & Appeals: USAV Bylaws (Article XI) and USAV Operating Code (Article X) govern protests, appeals, due process and ancillary procedures. Both of these documents are published in the USA Volleyball Guidebook. Protests, appeals and due process for this Event are specifically governed by these documents. Protests and appeals at this championship event are a simple one or two-step process.

TEAM UNIFORMS

Team players shall wear uniforms that are in full compliance with the United States Volleyball Domestic Competition Regulations (**see Rule 4.3**). If two or more sets of uniforms are used, players will be required to wear the **same** number for each set of shirts. Shirt numbers must be clearly visible for identification by scorekeepers, members of the All-Tournament selection committee and spectators. The numbers “0” and “00” are unacceptable and will not be permitted. Team members shall be in proper uniform when warming up. All Libero shirts shall be numbered. If an individual competes in a position other than Libero as well, his / her number must be the same.

Please note that **Rule 4.3.3.1 and 4.3.3.2** will be strictly enforced. This rule specifies that numbers must be of contrasting color (to the jersey) with no smaller than 6-inch numbers on the back and 4-inch numbers on the front of the jersey. Please note that numbers must be **centered** on the front and back of the jersey as specified in **Rule 4.3.3.2**. Color combinations for numbers such as purple/black, dark green/black, navy/black, white/light yellow or navy/maroon are not distinctive enough to comply with **Rule 4.3.3.1b**. Once competition has begun, all requests for number changes will be denied. Any exceptions will be subject to a \$50 charge per number change.

Rule USAV 4.3.5 states, “*For nationally-sanctioned competition, uniforms must be identical with the exception of the sleeve length and the Libero Player. An exception will be made for a single manufacturer’s logo or trademark on the outside of the jerseys or shorts, provided that the logo or trademark does not exceed 14.6 square cm (2 ¼ square inches)*”. **USAV 4.3** states: “*If undergarments, including but not limited to t-shirts, boxer shorts, tights, leotards, body suits, bicycle shorts, sports bras, etc., are worn in such a manner that they are exposed, they will be considered a part of the uniform. In that case, they must be similar and the same color for any team members who wear such a uniform. Socks and sport shoes are not part of the uniform.*”

Rule USAV 19.2a states, “*The Libero player’s jersey must contrast in color with that of the predominant colors of the jerseys of the other team members. Color combinations such as purple/black, dark green/black, navy/maroon and white/light yellow are not distinctive enough to comply with the rules.*”

HEIGHT OF THE NET

The height of the net is specified in the US Volleyball Domestic Competition Regulations (see **Rule 2.1**).

LEVEL OF PLAY	FEMALE	MALE
Collegiate	2.24 m (7'4 1/8")	2.43 m (7'11 5/8")

STRUCTURE OF PLAY

Day one of competition will consist of pool play. Pool play competition will begin at 8:00am and conclude by 11:00pm. Scheduling will occur in waves; an AM Wave generally runs from 8:00 am – 3:00 pm and the PM Wave is from 3:00 pm – 10:00 pm.

Days two and three of competition will feature challenge rounds, more pool play competition, followed by single elimination brackets and include the semifinals and championship matches. Teams should prepare to play multiple matches from Thursday through a portion of Saturday. The championship match for each division is scheduled for Saturday, April 3 except the Alumni divisions. The Alumni Division championship matches are scheduled for Friday, April 2.

Every effort will be made to schedule each team for a minimum of six (6) matches. This will be based upon the number of entries in a tournament.

MATCH PROTOCOL

1. For each match, the court will be available for warm-up ten (10) minutes prior to the match time. If a previous match on the same court runs late, then the ten (10) minute warm-up time will begin at the conclusion of the coin flip.
2. Following the captains' meeting with the referees for each match, the warm-up period for the match will consist of five (5) minutes for each team separately on the court, including serving, in accordance with the current rules of play.
3. Matches will not begin before the scheduled match time except as noted in #4 below.
4. The Championship Committee reserves the right to reschedule and / or relocate matches with respect to court and time to expedite competition. Any such changes will be posted in the results area, and every attempt will be made to inform each team representative of the change.
5. Non-deciding sets: rally score to 25 - all sets must be won by a margin of two (2) points

6. Deciding set: rally score to 15 points - must be won by a margin of two (2) points
7. 12 substitutions and a Libero for all matches.
8. The Libero player may be designated for the set and must be indicated on the line-up sheet for each set.
9. **PLAYING THE BALL**
Each team must play within its own playing area and space. The ball may, however, be retrieved from beyond the free zone.
 - *If obstructions or other safety concerns prohibit retrieval from beyond the free zone, the player retrieving a ball over a non-playing area must be in contact with the playing surface when contact with the ball is made.*
 - *Non-playing areas are defined as the: (1) walls, bleachers or other spectator seating areas; (2) team benches and any area behind the team benches; (3) area between the scorer's table and the team benches; (4) any other area outlined in the pre-match conference by the first referee. [Rule 23.2.5]*
 - *If nets or dividers are separating courts, only the player attempting to play the ball may move the net or divider to play the ball.*

COACHING

Rule **USAV 5.3.1** limits the activities of assistant coaches during a match (see below):

One assistant coach may leave the bench to give instructions to the players on the court. During play, this assistant coach may give these instructions while standing or walking within the free zone in front of his/her team bench from the extension of the attack line up to the warm-up area, no closer than 1.75 meter (5'10") from the sideline and its extension, without disturbing or delaying the match.

Only one assistant coach may stand at the same time during a set if a team has more than one assistant coach. There is no requirement to designate a "stand-up assistant coach". All assistant coaches are not permitted to talk to the referees or intervene in the match.

Other assistant coaches may give instructions to players on the court while remaining seated on the team bench.

The assistant coach does not have the right to intervene in the match.

Should the head coach have to leave the team, the assistant coach may, at the request of the team captain and with the authorization of the first referee, assume the head coach's functions.