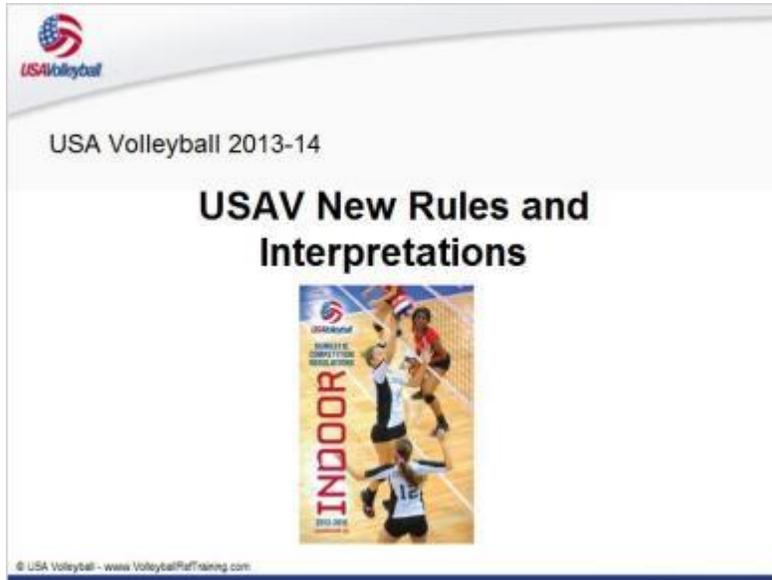


2013-15 New USAV Rules

1. 2013-2015 USAV Rules Changes

1.1 Untitled Slide



Notes:

In this presentation, the specific rules changes that are going to be in play in USAV for the 2013-14 season will be presented. Some of the changes are FIVB Rules changes that have been adopted by USAV as well, and others are USAV Rules Modifications that were approved at the USAV Rules of the Game meetings held in Denver in February of 2013. These are the Gray Boxes that appear throughout the Domestic Competition Regulations.

USAV has also included some comments in the Table of Comments section to define which rules will be used at what levels of competition. In short, FIVB rules will be used, with some minor exceptions for insurance purposes, for the Adult Open division, PVL and at the HP Championships. All other levels of competition will use the FIVB rules with the USAV modifications, which are the gray boxes found after the FIVB rule.

1.2 2013-2015 FIVB Rule NOT in Effect



2013-2015 FIVB Rule NOT in Effect

Rule 9.2.4 - It is a fault, during the reception of service, to make a double contact or catch using overhand finger action.

***The application of this rule has been postponed following the Board of Administration decision of April 5, 2013**

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Notes:

First a note about a rule that will not be in effect for the 2013-2014 season. Many of you have already heard rumors about this rule, but take note that implementation of this rule has been postponed pending further testing.

1.3 FIVB Rules and USAV Rules Modifications



FIVB Rules and USAV Rules Modifications

New FIVB rules adopted by USAV

- Screening (Rule 12.5)
- Misconduct and its Sanctions (Rule 21)

USAV modifications in grey boxes

- Team Composition (Rule 4.1)
- Assistant Coach (Rule 5.1)
- Illegal Player on Court (Rules 7.3.5.3, 7.5.4, 7.7.2, 15.9.2.3b)
- Centerline Penetration (Rule 11.2.2)
- The Libero (Rule 19)
 - New FIVB language
 - USAV modification

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Notes:

There are seven primary changes that will be in effect beginning in the 2013-14 season:

1. FIVB Rule 12.5 - Screening,
2. FIVB Rule 21 - Misconduct and its Sanctions,
3. USAV Rule 4.1 - Team Composition (clarification only),
4. USAV Rule 5.1 - Assistant Coach (clarification only),
5. USAV Rules 7.3.5.3, 7.5.4, 7.7.2, and 15.9.2.3b - Illegal Player on Court (or out of position on court),
6. USAV Rule 11.2.2 - Centerline Penetration, and
7. USAV Rule 19 - The Libero.

Each one of these will be covered in more detail on the following slides.

1.4 FIVB Rules Changes – Screening



FIVB Rules Changes - Screening

Old FIVB Rule 12.5	New FIVB Rule 12.5
12.5.1 The players of the serving team must not prevent their opponent, through individual or collective screening, from seeing the server or the flight path of the ball.	12.5.1 The players of the serving team must not prevent their opponent, through individual or collective screening, from seeing the server AND the flight path of the ball.
12.5.2 A player, or group of players, of the serving team makes a screen by waving arms, jumping or moving sideways, during the execution of the service, or by standing grouped to hide the flight path of the ball.	12.5.2 A player, or group of players, of the serving team makes a screen by waving arms, jumping or moving sideways, during the execution of the service, or by standing grouped to hide the server AND the flight path of the ball.

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Notes:

The first change made by FIVB and adopted by USAV involves the definition of Screening. This new rule seeks to clarify the interpretation of what should constitute a screen. The old rule states that the serving team must not prevent their opponents from seeing the server OR the flight of the ball.

The new rule simply changes the OR to AND so now a screen is only committed if the serving team prevents their opponents from seeing the server AND the flight of the ball. I know that all of you are quite relieved to hear this great news.

1.5 FIVB Rules Changes – Misconduct /Sanctions



Old FIVB Rule	New FIVB Rule
<p>20.1 Minor misconduct offences are not subject to sanctions. It is the 1st referee's duty to prevent the teams from approaching the sanctioning level by issuing a verbal or hand signal warning to a team member or to the team through the game captain.</p> <p>This warning is not a sanction and has no immediate consequences. It should not be recorded on the score sheet.</p>	<p>21.1 Minor misconduct offences are not subject to sanctions. It is the 1st referee's duty to prevent the teams from approaching the sanctioning level.</p> <p>This is done in two stages:</p> <p>Stage 1: by issuing a verbal warning through the game captain;</p> <p>Stage 2: by use of a YELLOW CARD to the team member(s) concerned. This formal warning is not in itself a sanction but a symbol that the team member (and by extension the team) has reached the sanctioning level for the match. It is recorded in the score sheet but has no immediate consequences.</p>
<p>20.2 Sanction Cards</p> <p>Warning: verbal or hand signal, no card</p> <p>Penalty: yellow card</p> <p>Expulsion: red card</p> <p>Disqualification: yellow + red card (jointly)</p>	

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Notes:

One of the bigger changes made by FIVB and adopted by USAV involves misconduct and its sanctions. Many of you have probably heard that we are going back to the old sanction scale where a yellow card is just a warning and red card becomes a penalty. That is at least partially true, but is also not the whole change.

There are two main parts of this change. The first part defines the progression of how referees are to deal with misconduct. Referees will still be trained to deal with the initial stages of misconduct through the use of verbal warnings to hopefully prevent the team from progressing to more severe behavior. These verbal warnings are not limited, in that you can repeat a verbal warning to the same team or team member if the situation warrants. An example might be for a player who makes a comment through the net to an opponent and receives a verbal warning and then later in the match shows minor disagreement with the decisions of the referees regarding a judgment call. The referees have the ability to give two separate verbal warnings to that same player for these two separate incidences of minor misconduct.

However, if the misconduct does not improve or if it escalates, the second stage of warning is now through the use of a Yellow Card. Yellow cards are given to a specific team member for their minor misconduct, but here is the BIG difference. Even though the warning is assessed to a specific team member, each yellow card is assessed for the ENTIRE TEAM. This means that each team can only receive ONE yellow card in any given match. Any subsequent misconduct that would warrant at least a yellow card must escalate to a Red Card and a penalty. However, verbal warnings are still a possibility, even after a Yellow Card, if the misconduct is very minor in nature.

Also, just as in years past, there is no requirement to start with any given sanction if the situation warrants. For example, if a coach loudly uses rude language to disagree with a

referees decision, the referee CAN go immediately to a Red Card penalty. That is true all the way up to and including Disqualification if necessary.

What is slightly different is that it is possible to start with an individual penalty (Red Card) and then revert back to a verbal warning or even an individual Yellow card. This requires that the referee use sound judgment in determining the difference between spontaneous human reactions and conscious acts of misconduct. If in the referees opinion the individual has made a spontaneous reaction to a play, it may warrant a yellow card even if a red card has already been assessed. However, all offenses which would normally require a sanction MUST follow the progression on the sanction scale as noted on the following slide and as described in rule 21.3 and 21.4.

1.6 FIVB Rules Changes – Misconduct /Sanctions



Old FIVB Rule	New FIVB Rule
<p>21.1 Misconduct offences are not subject to sanctions. It is the first referee's duty to prevent the teams from approaching the sanctioning level by issuing a verbal or hand signal warning to a team member or to the team through the game captain.</p> <p>This warning is not a sanction and has no immediate consequences. It should not be recorded on the scoreboard.</p>	<p>21.6 Summary of Misconduct and Cards Used</p> <p>Warning: no sanction - Stage 1: verbal warning - Stage 2: symbol Yellow card</p> <p>Penalty: sanction - symbol Red card</p>
<p>21.6 Sanction Cards</p> <p>Warning: verbal or hand signal, no card Penalty: yellow card Expulsion: red card Disqualification: yellow + red card (jointly)</p>	<p>Expulsion: sanction - symbol Red + Yellow cards jointly</p> <p>Disqualification: sanction - symbol Red + Yellow card separately</p>

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Notes:

The second part of this change we have basically already covered, but it involves the cards used for specific levels of misconduct. There are really no changes to the rules regarding penalties, expulsions or disqualifications, except the card or cards to display when they occur.

As described on the previous slide, a Minor Misconduct Warning is now displayed by using a yellow card, and a Misconduct Penalty sanction is displayed using a red card. For an Expulsion, the referee will now display both the Red and Yellow cards held together, while a Disqualification would be displayed by showing both the Red and Yellow cards held separately.

1.7 USAV Rules Modifications



USAV Rules Modifications Team Composition

Old USAV Rule 4.1.1

A team may consist of up to 12 players, one coach, one assistant coach, one trainer and one medical doctor (unless modified by the Specific Competition Regulations).

For FIVB World and Official Competitions, the medical doctor and trainer must be accredited beforehand by the FIVB.

New FIVB Rule 4.1.1

For the match, a team may consist of up to 12 players, plus

- Coaching Staff: one coach, a maximum of two assistant coaches,
- Medical Staff: one team therapist and one medical doctor.

Only those listed on the score sheet may normally enter the Competition/Control Area and take part in the official warm up and in the match.

For FIVB, World and Official Competitions the medical doctor and team therapist must be accredited beforehand by the FIVB.

New USAV Rule 4.1.1

Adds "unless modified by the specific Competition Regulations."

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Notes:

The first USAV rule modification we will present relates to Team Composition. The USAV rules commission has decided to retain the “unless modified by the Specific Competition Regulations” portion of the original rule regarding Team Composition. This will allow specific competitions to determine if modifying the roster size limitation makes sense for the competition. An example would be for PVL competition where roster sizes might be limited to 15 players rather than 12.

1.8 USAV Rules Modifications – Assistant Coach



Old USAV Rule 5.3.1	New USAV Rule 5.3.1
<p>One assistant coach at a time 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's bench from the extension of the attack line up to the warm-up area, and no closer to the court than 1.75 m (5'10") from the sideline and its extension, without disturbing or delaying the match.</p> <p>The extension of the attack line is drawn to a distance of 1.75 m (5'10") from the sideline.</p>	<p>One assistant coach at a time may stand to give instructions to the players on the court, but has no right to intervene in the match. During play, this assistant coach may give these instructions while standing or walking within the free zone in front of his/her team's bench from the extension of the attack line up to the warm-up area, and no closer to the court than 1.75 m (5'10") from the sideline and its extension, without disturbing or delaying the match.</p>

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Notes:

Apparently there was some confusion in the way that the Assistant Coach rule was worded in last years DCR. This new rule attempts to accurately reflect the way the rule was intended and was being interpreted by the USAV Indoor Rules Interpreter.

The actual change in wording here goes from “may leave the bench” to “may stand” and adds the phrase “but has no right to intervene in the match.” The intent of the rule is to allow both the Head Coach and ONE Assistant Coach to be standing at all times before and during the match. There is no change to the restrictions on the assistant coach, so they are still NOT allowed to intervene in the match. For example the assistant coach may NOT request a time-out, and ~~they~~ still may NOT disturb or delay the match.

1.9 USAV Rules Modifications – Illegal Player



USAV Rules Modifications - Illegal Player

Old USAV Rule 7.3.5.3

If the positional fault is discovered before the opponent serves, all points scored subsequent to the fault must be cancelled. In addition, all time-outs taken by the team not at fault, as well as substitutions and team sanctions charged to either team subsequent to the commission of the positional fault, must be cancelled. Individual misconduct sanctions assessed to either team, and time-outs taken by the team at fault, are not cancelled if the points scored while the player was out of position cannot be determined or the opponents have served, then a loss of rally is the only penalty charged. The opponents retain any points scored.

FIVB Rule 7.3.5.3 in effect:

However, if the coach wishes to keep such non-recorded player(s) on the court, he/she has to request regular substitution (s), which will then be recorded on the scoresheet. If a discrepancy between player positions and the line-up sheet is discovered later, the team at fault must revert to the correct positions. All points scored by the team from the exact moment of the fault up to the discovery of the fault are cancelled. The opponent's points remain valid and in addition, they receive a point and the next service.

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Notes:

One of the more significant changes to the USAV Rules Modifications for the coming year deals with how the referees respond when an illegal player or substitute is found to be in the game. In the old rules, there was a hierarchy of things that determined what, if any, penalty would be assessed based on the results of the previous rallies. Those gray boxes have all been removed and the process is now very simple.

The first of these scenarios is Rule 7.3.5.3. In this scenario, the illegal player in question refers to a player on the court who is not recorded on the line-up sheet. When it is determined that there is an illegal player on the court, the referee must go to the scoresheet and Libero Control Sheet and determine the first moment the illegal player entered the set. The team will lose ALL points back to that moment in the match.

For example, Team A has player number 9 listed on the line-up sheet, but player number 8 is in the game and has been from the start of the set. After several rallies with no substitutions and the score 5-5, number 8 goes back to serve. The scorer immediately notifies the second referee that there is no number 8 on the line-up. Since no substitutions have occurred, the referees know that number 8 was on the court from the beginning of the set. Team A loses all their points since they have played the entire set so far with an illegal player. Team A would be instructed to put the correct player on the court or request a substitution to allow the illegal player to continue in the set. Team B would receive a point and the ball for service. The set would continue with a score of Team B 6, Team A 0.

This change eliminates the questions of who served the last point, who won the last rally, etc, and simply focuses on determining when the team first played with an illegal

player and removes all their points back to that moment in the set.

There will be more pressure on the second referee to check the line-ups correctly, but it is still the responsibility of the team to know who is to be on the court to start the set. The line-up check is just a courtesy.

1.10 USAV Rules Modifications – Illegal Player



USAV Rules Modifications - Illegal Player

Old USAV Rule 7.5.4 & 7.7.2:

7.5.4 If the positional fault is discovered before the opponent scores, all points scored subsequent to the fault shall be cancelled. In addition, all line numbers by the team out of fault, as well as substitutions and team numbers changed in other line subsequent to the commission of the positional fault, remain cancelled. Subsequent successful conditions occurred to either team, and line numbers by the team at fault, are not cancelled. If the positioner while the player was out of position can not be determined as the opponent is have scored, then a line of rally is the only penalty charged. The opponent shall win the point scored.

7.7.2 If the rotational fault is discovered before the opponent scores, all points scored subsequent to the fault shall be cancelled. In addition, all line numbers by the team out of fault, as well as substitutions and team numbers changed in other line subsequent to the commission of the rotational fault, remain cancelled. Subsequent successful conditions occurred to either team, and line numbers by the team at fault, are not cancelled. If the positioner while the player was out of position can not be determined as the opponent is have scored, then a line of rally is the only penalty charged. The opponent shall win the point scored.

NEW Rules in effect:

7.5.4 A positional fault leads to the following consequences:

- **7.5.4.1** the team is sanctioned with a point and serve to the opponent;
- **7.5.4.2** players' positions are rectified.

7.7.2 Additionally, the scorer should determine the exact moment when the fault was committed and all points scored subsequently by the team at fault must be cancelled. The opponent's points remain valid. If that moment cannot be determined, no points cancellation takes place, and a point and serve to the opponent is the only sanction.

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Notes:

The next two rules refer to Positional Faults and Rotational Faults. Again, the hierarchy of questions have been removed and the referee simply determines the point in the set when the team was first illegal and that team loses all their points back to that moment.

For a Positional Fault, this will almost always be one point. While it is possible that the teams were out of position for previous rallies, the official must be SURE that a fault was committed and if the referees are not sure enough to call the fault on the previous rally, it is most likely that they are not SURE enough to go further back. However, if a team was clearly out of position for several rallies, this can be corrected with the team losing the points scored back to that moment in the set.

For Rotational Faults (wrong servers), it is even more clear. All points scored subsequent to the teams initial Rotational Fault are cancelled, no matter how many legal servers have followed the illegal server. The opponents receive a point and the next service.

1.11 USAV Rules Modifications – Illegal Player



USAV Rules Modifications - Illegal Player

EXISTING Rule 15.9.2.3

a. No substitution will be charged to the team if the player is charged to the wrong court. In addition, any player or substitution charged to the line of the wrong court shall be removed from the court as though they had never occurred, and

b. If the team fails to recognize and the error is after the opponents have won all points previously scored by the offending team shall be retained. The serving team will be awarded a point unless the error is discovered after the serving team has scored a point. In this case, an additional point will be awarded.

c. If it is not possible to determine when the error first occurred and the offending team is not the serving team, only the last point in that term of service will be retained.

NEW Rule 15.9.2

15.9.2 When a team has made an illegal substitution and the play has been resumed the following procedure shall apply:

- **15.9.2.1** the team is penalized with a point and service to the opponent.
- **15.9.2.2** the substitution is notified.
- **15.9.2.3** the points scored by the team at fault since the fault was committed are cancelled. The opponent's points remain valid.

New USAV Rule 15.9.2.3

a. No substitution will be charged to the team or player, even if required to correct the wrong entry. In addition, any player or team substitutions charged at the time of the wrong entry shall be removed from the score sheet as though they had never occurred, and

b. If it is not possible to determine when the error first occurred and the offending team is serving, only the last point in that term of service will be retained.

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Notes:

The final section referring to an illegal player on the court is Rule 15.9.2.3 which deals with an illegal substitute entering the game. Remember, an illegal substitute would be someone not on the roster, someone wearing an illegal number, someone entering in the wrong position, an expelled player, etc. In this case, again the hierarchy of questions has been eliminated and the referees would simply determine the first moment the illegal player entered the set, and that team would lose all their points back to that moment in the set.

In all these cases, the opponents of the team at fault would retain all the points that they had scored, and receive an additional point and the next service.

1.12 USAV Rules Modifications – Centerline



USAV Rules Modifications - Centerline

Old USAV Rule 11.2.2	New USAV Rule 11.2.2
<p>Penetration into the opponent's court, beyond the center line:</p> <p>11.2.2.1 To touch the opponent's court with a foot (feet) is permitted, provided that some part of the penetrating foot (feet) remains either in contact with or directly above the center line;</p> <p>11.2.2.2 To touch the opponent's court with any part of the body above the feet is permitted provided that it does not interfere with the opponent's play.</p>	<p>11.2.2.1 Encroachment into the opponent's court with the foot, feet or hand(s) is permitted, provided some part of the encroaching extremity remains in contact with or directly above the center line, and there is no interference with opponents. It is not a fault to contact the opponent's team court with the hand.</p> <p>11.2.2.2 Encroachment into the opponent's court with any part of the body is permitted, provided some part of the body remains either in contact with or directly above the center line, and there is no interference with opponents. In addition, completely crossing the center line with the foot, feet or hands, or encroachment with other body parts must not present a safety hazard to opponents.</p>

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Notes:

Another significant USAV Rules Modification deals with Centerline Penetration.

For the 2013-14 season, the USAV Rules Commission voted to adopt the centerline penetration language currently in use for women's NCAA play. The biggest difference between the two rules sets involved the penetration of the foot or feet. In FIVB and in previous year's DCR, penetration of the foot or feet was a fault if no part of the foot or feet were either in contact with or directly above the centerline. The new USAV Rule Modification allows for this type of complete penetration with the foot or feet (or any other body part) provided that some part of the body remains either in contact with or directly above the center line, and there is no interference with opponents. The penetration must also not present a safety hazard to the opponents.

This does not mean that referees should ignore all centerline penetration. Please note that interference with the opponent's play and safety are still paramount in their judgment of whether a centerline penetration fault has occurred.

All other aspects of the centerline rule remain unchanged.

1.13 FIVB Rules Changes – The Libero



FIVB Rules Changes - The Libero

Old FIVB Rule	New FIVB Rule
<p>19.3.2.2 The Acting Libero can only be replaced by the regular replacement player for that position, or by the second Libero.</p> <p>The regular replacement player may replace either Libero.</p> <p>The coach has the right to replace the Acting Libero with the second Libero for any reason after a completed rally (if any line during the match (the original Libero may not re-enter to play for the remainder of the match)).</p> <p>In case of illness or injury to the team's Libero, the coach may designate as Libero for the remainder of the match any other player (except the original Libero) set on the court in the interest of fair competition.</p> <p>19.3.2.3 The consequences of an illegal Libero replacement are the same as those for a rotational fault.</p>	<p>19.3.2.9 An illegal Libero replacement can involve (amongst others)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">no completed rally between Libero replacements,the Libero being replaced by a player other than the second Libero or the regular replacement player. <p>An illegal Libero replacement should be considered in the same way as an illegal substitution.</p> <p>should the illegal Libero replacement be noticed before the start of the next rally, then this is corrected by the referees, and the team is sanctioned for delay;</p> <p>should the illegal Libero replacement be noticed after the service hit, the consequences are the same as for an illegal substitution.</p>

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Notes:

The final indoor rule change is also a major one. It involves the use of the Libero or Liberos during the match. Let's start with the new FIVB language also adopted by USAV regarding the Libero.

The new FIVB rule changes regarding use of the Libero can also be broken down into two main changes. The first involves how we treat illegal Libero replacements. In the old FIVB rule, we are instructed to treat illegal replacements like rotational faults. USAV interpreted that to mean that we must allow the illegal replacement to occur and then call the rotational fault at the moment of contact of the serve. Apparently that was never the intent of FIVB.

So the new rule instructs referees to treat an illegal replacement like an illegal substitution. Essentially that means that if the officials can catch the illegal replacement before the start of the next rally, the referees should whistle to prevent the next rally from starting, correct the illegal replacement, and issue the appropriate Delay Sanction (warning or penalty).

If the officials do not catch the illegal replacement before the next serve, this essentially means there is an illegal player on the court and the referees follow the procedure for correcting the illegal replacement exactly as they would an illegal substitution.

1.14 FIVB Rules Changes – The Libero



FIVB Rules Changes - The Libero

Old FIVB Rule:	New FIVB Rule:
<p>19.3.2.2 The Acting Libero can only be replaced by the regular replacement player for that position, or by the second Libero.</p> <p>The regular replacement player may replace either Libero.</p> <p>The coach has the right to replace the Acting Libero with the second Libero for any reason after a completed rally at any time during the match (the original Libero may not re-enter to play for the remainder of the match).</p> <p>In case of illness or injury to the regular Libero, the coach may designate a Libero for the remainder of the match any other player (except the original Libero) set on the court in the interest of the re-designation.</p> <p>19.3.2.3 The re-designation of an illegal Libero replacement can be done on the court for a retained ball.</p>	<p>19.4.1 The Libero becomes unable to play if injured, ill, expelled or disqualified.</p> <p>The Libero can be declared unable to play for any reason by the coach or, in the absence of a coach, by the game captain.</p> <p>19.4.2.2 If the Acting Libero becomes unable to play, he/she may be replaced by the regular replacement player or immediately and directly to court by a re-designated Libero. However, a Libero who is the subject of a re-designation may not play for the remainder of the match.</p> <p>If the Libero is not on court when declared unable to play, he/she may also be the subject of a re-designation. The Libero declared unable to play may not play for the remainder of the match.</p>

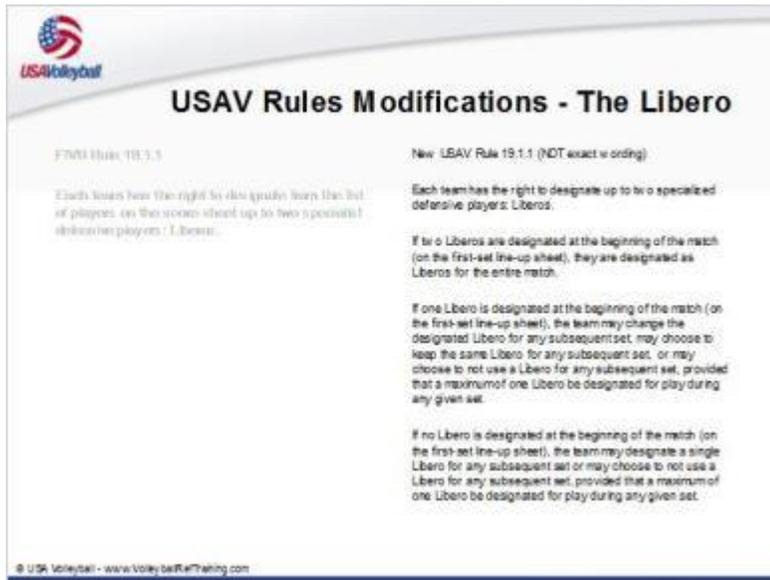
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Notes:

The second part of the new FIVB Libero rule involves how and when a new Libero can be re-designated during a match. In the old FIVB rule, there are specific restrictions as to when and why a Libero can be re-designated. We don't need to go into those details, so let's focus on the new instructions.

The new rules basically allow the coach (or in the absence of the coach by the game captain) to declare a Libero unable to play for any reason and at any time during the match. And if a Libero either becomes unable to play (injured, ill, expelled or disqualified) or is declared unable to play at any time during the match, the team has the right to re-designate a new Libero to replace the Libero who has been declared unable to play. If the Libero is on the court at the time, the team can immediately (and directly to the court) replace the acting Libero with the re-designated Libero. Any Libero who either becomes unable to play (injured, ill, expelled or disqualified) or is declared unable to play at any time during the match may not play for the remainder of the match.

1.15 USAV Rules Modifications – The Libero



The image shows a document titled "USAV Rules Modifications - The Libero" with the USA Volleyball logo. It compares the old rule (FIVB Rule 19.3.3) with the new rule (USAV Rule 19.1.1). The old rule states that each team has the right to designate from the list of players on the score sheet up to two specialized defensive players: Liberos. The new rule states that each team has the right to designate up to two specialized defensive players: Liberos. It further specifies that if two Liberos are designated at the beginning of the match (on the first-set line-up sheet), they are designated as Liberos for the entire match. If one Libero is designated at the beginning of the match (on the first-set line-up sheet), the team may change the designated Libero for any subsequent set, may choose to keep the same Libero for any subsequent set, or may choose to not use a Libero for any subsequent set, provided that a maximum of one Libero be designated for play during any given set. If no Libero is designated at the beginning of the match (on the first-set line-up sheet), the team may designate a single Libero for any subsequent set or may choose to not use a Libero for any subsequent set, provided that a maximum of one Libero be designated for play during any given set. The footer of the document reads "© USA Volleyball - www.volleyballrfeet.com".

Old Rule (FIVB Rule 19.3.3)
Each team has the right to designate from the list of players on the score sheet up to two specialized defensive players: Liberos.

New USAV Rule 19.1.1 (NOT exact wording)
Each team has the right to designate up to two specialized defensive players: Liberos.

If two Liberos are designated at the beginning of the match (on the first-set line-up sheet), they are designated as Liberos for the entire match.

If one Libero is designated at the beginning of the match (on the first-set line-up sheet), the team may change the designated Libero for any subsequent set, may choose to keep the same Libero for any subsequent set, or may choose to not use a Libero for any subsequent set, provided that a maximum of one Libero be designated for play during any given set.

If no Libero is designated at the beginning of the match (on the first-set line-up sheet), the team may designate a single Libero for any subsequent set or may choose to not use a Libero for any subsequent set, provided that a maximum of one Libero be designated for play during any given set.

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Notes:

The final part of the indoor rule change regarding the Libero is also a major one. It involves the use of the Libero or Liberos during the match. The USAV Rules Commission has decided in the interest of player development to alter the Libero participation rule as follows:

If a team wishes to use two different Liberos during any individual set, the team must designate two Liberos for the first set of the match and must play with those two Liberos for the duration of the match. No changes to the Liberos may be made without going through the re-designation process.

If a team only wishes to use one Libero PER SET, or no Liberos in a set, they now have the option of designating either one or no Liberos for the first set of the match, and then may change Liberos for any subsequent set in the match, provided that a maximum of one Libero be designated for play during any given set in the match.

Practically speaking, if a team wants to use two Liberos in any single set, the Liberos must be listed on the line-up sheet for set 1 of a match and cannot be changed for the match. If a team wants to be able to change Liberos from set to set, only one or no Libero can be listed on the line-up sheet for set 1 of a match, and any Libero, including the same Libero from the first set, must be listed on the line-up sheet for any subsequent sets.

There is no requirement for the team to continue to use a Libero for subsequent sets, so if no Libero is listed on the lineup sheet for sets 2, then no Libero will be allowed during

that set. However, good preventive officiating would dictate that if a team has not listed a Libero for set 2 when they used one for set 1, the referees should try to verify with the team/coach if a Libero is desired before the line-up is submitted to the scorer and cannot be changed. Remember, however, that this is a courtesy, so if no Libero is listed and the referee does not check with the team, no Libero will be used during that set.

To summarize, if a team starts with two, they must stay with the same two for the entire match. If a team starts with one, they may change from set to set, including not using a Libero for any set if they so desire. If no Libero is designated to start the match, the team may elect to change and use a maximum of one Libero per set for any subsequent sets.

1.16 Closing slide



Questions? Contact Paul Albright:
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