

OREGON SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION
Volleyball SRI Bulletin #1 / February 23, 2021

Visit the [Dates/Resources](#) tab on the volleyball page of the OSAA website for valuable information and assistance tools. Link here: <https://www.osaa.org/activities/vbl/information>

COVID RULE MODIFICATIONS and PROCEDURES FOR COACHES AND OFFICIALS

Face Masks

- **Should be worn at all times by everyone in the gym**
- It is the host management's responsibility to ensure this happens.
- Officials - Be proactive and preventive if you see an athlete with mask issues.
 - Remember players cannot see your facial expressions so contact host management or the head coach to talk to their players.
 - If a mask falls off during play, let play continue and give the athlete a chance to correct the problem at the next dead ball. If necessary, a coach may call a sub or time-out to correct the issue if it appears there will be a delay.
 - If any issue persists, contact your commissioner after the match.
 - Again, no one can play without a mask!!!
- It is highly recommended that both officials and teams have extra masks handy for emergencies.

Pre-Match Conference

- R1/R2 and the head coach from each team attend.
- Center court or if teams are warming up a safe, quiet place.
- Maintain 6 feet of distance.
- No coin toss – Visiting team will serve first in set one and alternate first serve for the remaining non-deciding sets.
- Rosters turned in at score table prior to 10-minute mark.

Team Benches

- The home team will pick side and there will be no switching benches between sets.
- In the event of a distinct disadvantage, contact the R1/R2 as early as possible and they will determine if there is a disadvantage. Notify host management for sanitization purposes. Normal mechanics will apply.
- Limit bench personnel to observe social distancing of 3-6 feet, bench chairs 6 feet apart.
- Benches must still start at the 10-foot line and leave room for the R2 to work.

Game Balls / Ball Rotation Crew

- The R1/R2 will check the pressure on the game balls at the start of the first match. After that point they will not touch the volleyballs. Neither will the line judges.
- Procure people who can run a ball rotation/sanitization system for your school. You'll need at least one on each end of the court. They will rotate game balls through the set to the servers as well as use some sort of sanitization process during the set and then again between matches.

Pre/Post Game Protocols

- Line Judge Conference – The R1 should take the line judges to a quiet, safe place where they can physically distance themselves and go over expectations and rules. Once they pick up their flags, they should keep the same set with them the entire match or matches they are working.
- Replace handshakes before and after the match with a physical distance acknowledgement of the team's choosing (the same for officials).
- National Anthem Protocol (Varsity) - Officiating crew will maintain 6 feet of distance walking across floor and standing for NA / eliminate handshaking. The R1 will still blow whistle to start match but the teams will not meet at the net.
 - Line judges do not set flags on stand but keep them with you at all times. When you are done return them to the score table for sanitization.

Substitutions / R2 Duties

- Substitution rules will apply but the R2 should maintain 6 feet of distance from the players.
- Subs should maintain at least 3 feet of distance while exchanging places.
- The R2 needs to work with the table crew for distancing issues while still following all R2 procedures and mechanics. Gloves may be worn if you deem necessary. Be preventive and continue to follow all R2 procedures. Eliminating any of these will create long delays at a later time. Communication is the key. Make sure the table crew and the R2 can hear each other.

Deciding Set Procedures

- The R2 and one captain from each team will do a coin toss at the center of the court.
- The home team will call the toss.
- The winner of the toss will call serve or receive, there will be no changing sides unless it has already been discussed in the pre-match due to a distinct disadvantage for one team. The R1/R2 will make the final decision, again, it must be decided prior to the start of the match.

ITEMS TO CONSIDER:

1. Allow enough time between matches for sanitization

- Refer to <https://www.osaa.org/docs/vbl/2020VolleyballMemo.pdf> for detailed information on this and all Covid related information.
- Covid Preparedness Checklist: <https://www.osaa.org/docs/osaainfo/COVID%20Preparedness.pdf>

2. Officiating Crew Items for Coach and Officials

- R1/R2, 2 Line Judges, 3-person table crew, ball rotation crew (2-4 people).
- Supplemental officials may not switch between sets, only match-to-match with sanitization in between.
- If possible, schools should try and provide separate restroom facilities and a private location for officials, especially between matches. Officials should always come dressed in their uniform.
 - Officials should provide their own food and water. There will be some long evenings. Providing a room for the officials would be a gift to them.
- Officials should expect to go through a temperature check at each site.
- Officials Masks – Solid color, no face shields unless over a mask, gators OK.
- Whistles – Electronic or regular acceptable.
 - The gym will be quieter than normal so an electronic whistle will be heard.
- Have thick skin and be flexible.
 - It will be easier to hear conversations in a quiet gym but also be prepared to have to speak up to be heard.
 - Flexibility is the key, especially to start the season. Refer all questions and problems to your local commissioner.

3. Please notify your local commissioner

- If you want your officials to enter through a special entrance.
- For any special considerations your school might have during this time.
- If you would like lines or scoring training for your volunteers.

We are all excited to get back to playing but we know there will be some time to get used to all the changes. If you have any issues that I didn't cover above will you please email them to me and I'll follow up with another SRI bulletin by the end of the week. Thank you.

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