

Purpose

The use of radio headsets is new to most officials. The intent of this introduction is to help set guidelines and start the process of developing best practices so officials can have direct and effective communication during training and regularly schedule volleyball matches. Your feedback will be very helpful in standardizing the use of radio headsets

Remember that the use of radios is entirely voluntary. No one is required to use them

Guidelines

Officials will provide the headsets and both officials must agree on their use. Officials should test connectivity and volume levels during warm-ups so there is no delay during the match. A thorough pre-match should be conducted by officials to include discussion on what will be communicated via the headset. Conversations between officials should be kept to a minimum and relate to the match in progress. Headsets are always open but there is a short delay from when a voice is first detected to when it is transmitted.

The role of the R2 should remain to be focused primarily on net play!

- Headsets do not replace any established signals or mechanics any officials use.
- Use headsets when required during play but not for needless chatter.
- Headsets should not be provided to anyone other than officials assigned to and working the match
- Officials should be ever mindful that most radio systems are NOT secure from the public.
- Careful attention must be paid to what is said when speaking into the headsets and the safest approach would be “if you don’t want it on the public address system, don’t say it on the radio”.

PRE-MATCH COMMUNICATION:

- The lead official must facilitate clear communications and expectations regarding the use of the devices.
- When used, the lead official shall be responsible for ensuring that each official on the crew has been provided a charged and working device.
- Crews must ensure that the channel or frequency of the communication devices DOES NOT interfere with any communication devices of the coaching staffs and/or match administration. It is the crew’s responsibility to avoid channel or frequency conflicts with any other party.
- The lead official shall coordinate a testing of the crew communication devices to ensure proper operation and connectivity to all devices used by the officiating crew.

Use During Matches

The R2 may use the following verbiage guidelines during the match:

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|--|------------------------|
| ● Overhead pass in the front zone by the Libero: | Libero, Libero, Libero |
| ● Overhead pass by the Libero behind the attack line: | Good, good, good |
| ● Illegal back row setter: | Back, back, back |
| ● Back row player takes off on or in front of the attack line: | Back, back, back |
| ● Back row player takes off behind the attack line: | Good, good, good |
| ● Blocker reaching over: | Over, over, over |
| ● Glancing touch on the block: | Touch, touch, touch |
| ● A ball “out” on the R2’s sideline (when the LJ may not have a good look) | Out, out, out |
| ● A ball “in” on the R2’s sideline (when the LJ may not have a good look) | In, in, in |
| ● Successful pancake | Good, good, good |
| ● Unsuccessful pancake | Down, down, down |
| ● Potential four-hit violation | Four, four, four |

Between rallies, the R1 and R2 can communicate pertinent information to each other. Some examples:

- Can confer regarding a specific rule.
- Can confer regarding a specific play.
- Substitution situations when both teams have a sub or one may be requesting a time-out.
- Request for delay or unsporting sanction on a team or player.
- Can confer as to the reason for a lengthy delay.