



October 22, 2025

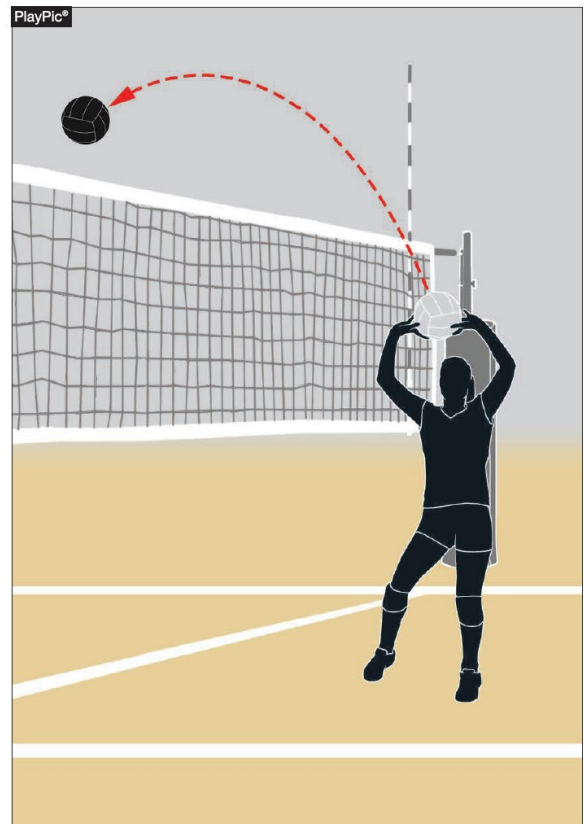
NFHS Volleyball Weekly Rule Interpretations

LIBERO RULES

The libero is a back-row player who is a designated defensive specialist. The rules governing the libero position have evolved to allow for more opportunities for the libero to participate in various aspects of the game, while still maintaining the integrity of the position. **Officials** must monitor libero replacements, positioning and actions throughout a match. **Coaches** must teach proper replacement procedures and appropriate actions and positioning during play.

SITUATION 1: The libero for Team R, standing in front of the attack line, contacts the ball while the ball is below the height of the net using a two-hand finger pass. The ball enters the plane of the net and is next blocked by an opponent. **RULING:** Legal.

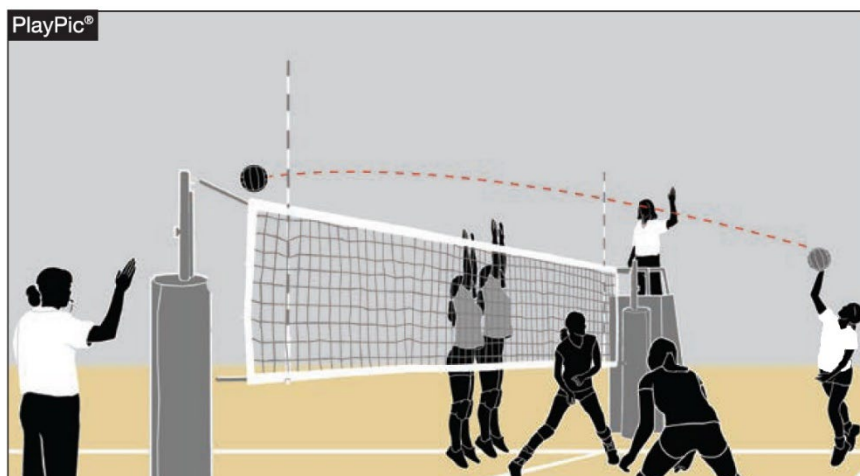
COMMENT: Back row players, including the libero, may complete an attack (any action other than a block or a serve that directs the ball toward the opponent's court) in front of the attack line as long as the ball is below the height of the net upon contact. (9-5-4)



SITUATION 2: The libero for Team R contacts the ball in front of the attack line while the ball is below the height of the net using a two-hand finger pass. The ball is next attacked by a teammate: (a) above the height of the net; (b) below the height of the net. **RULING:** (a) Illegal back-row attack; (b) legal. **COMMENT:** The libero shall not set the ball using an overhand finger pass while on or in front of the attack line extended, resulting in a completed attack above the height of the net. (9-5-6b)



SITUATION 3: The setter for Team S is pulled off the net and sets the libero in the backrow for the third contact for Team S. The libero jumps and completes an attack from behind the attack line while the ball is: (a) partially above the height of the net; (b) completely above the height of the net. **RULING:** (a) Legal; (b) Illegal back-row attack. **COMMENT:** The libero cannot complete an attack from anywhere if, at the moment of contact, the ball is entirely about the height of the net. (9-5-6a)



SITUATION 4: Team R has already received an unnecessary delay (administrative yellow card) for a late lineup to begin set two. During the same set, the R2 identifies an illegal libero replacement on Team R prior to Team S's contact for serve.

RULING: Unnecessary delay (administrative red card).

COMMENT: An illegal libero replacement identified before contact for serve is an unnecessary delay. This is Team R's second unnecessary delay of the set which results in an administrative red card. If the R1 has already authorized the serve, the R1 will whistle to prevent the serve by Team S, administer the unnecessary delay (award a point to Team S), correct the alignment and resume play with the same server for Team S. (9-9 PENALTIES 2, 10-4 PENALTIES 1)

