

Referees,

We've had a couple of interesting (and avoidable!) situations this year -- all related to team line-up sheets. Here are a few important notes & reminders so that we can avoid some of the unfortunate situations that have occurred:

1 - The OVR/USAV line-up sheet or a similar style sheet must be used.

<https://www.ovr.org/forms/2012/officiating/roster-and-lineup-combo.pdf>

If a coach has their own line-up sheet, that's fine as long as it represents COURT POSITIONS in the same manner as the OVR/USAV line-up sheet.

2 - A coach may NOT submit a line-up sheet with a service order written on it. High school rules did/do allow this, but USAV rules do not. Here is an example of what is NOT permissible when submitting a line-up:

L=10

2c

5

12

9

3

7

3 - A coach may not say "Same line-up" to indicate they want to use the same line-up as the previous set. They MUST write a new line-up for every set, even if the line-up is the same as the previous set.

4 - Referees should be in the habit of checking team line-ups when they are submitted during pre-match warm-ups. Instruct work teams to do the same thing. There are "five key points" to look for on a line-up sheet:

#1 - team name

#2 - a Libero(s) is listed, if used; or an "X" if no Libero is used

#3 - there are no duplicate numbers, including the Libero

#4 - the captain is noted with a "c" next to the number

#5 - a coach has signed the line-up sheet

PLEASE INSTRUCT WORK TEAMS ABOUT THESE "FIVE POINTS FOR CHECKING A LINE-UP"

If there is anything abnormal discovered during this check, return the line-up sheet to the coach to fix it -- NO PENALTY.

5 - We encourage referees to stay on the stand between sets. But when it comes to working with junior support crews, it is entirely appropriate to get off the stand between sets to quickly review the scoresheet to ensure they're doing things correctly. This is also a good time to take a glance at the line-up sheets as their submitted between sets to ensure everything is in order. If you have confidence in your work team, you don't need to come off the stand between sets 1 & 2.

6 - Lastly, ask the scorer & Libero tracker to also check team line-ups on the court while the second referee is checking player positions before the start of each set. Have two or three sets of eyes looking at the player numbers will help ensure that a wrong player doesn't start a set. If a wrong player is on the court to start a set, the team can either put the correct player on the court (no penalty), or they can make a substitution to keep the incorrect player on the court legally.

Use preventive officiating in these situations! When we can prevent an error from occurring - such as no Libero listed even though the team has a Libero - FIX IT!

Brian Hemelgarn, OVR Referees' Chair