



OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

THIS WEEK IN VOLLEYBALL | ISSUE 1

July 30, 2026

TO: OHSAA Volleyball Head Coaches

FR: Michael Cornathan, Sport Administrator – Volleyball

RE: *This Week in Volleyball – Issue 1*

VOLLEYBALL STATE RULES MEETING

Per *General Sport Regulation 2*, all Head Volleyball Coaches are required to complete the State Rules Meeting. **The Volleyball Online Rules Meeting is now LIVE on MyOHSAA**—please see the Rules Meeting deadlines below. All rules interpretation meetings for coaches will be conducted online through your **MyOHSAA** account.

HOW TO COMPLETE STATE RULES MEETING ONLINE

All coaches will access the State Rules Meeting through their **MyOHSAA** account*. Once you have logged in (full directions below) and have accessed the Rules Meeting, please follow the prompts to complete the meeting to receive meeting credit. *Please see all dates and deadlines below.*

**Coaches should contact their Athletic Director if they do not have an account.*

TO ACCESS ONLINE RULES MEETINGS

1. Login to your **MyOHSAA** account
2. On the dashboard, you will see any items that you may need to attend to.
3. Click on the “Rules Meeting” icon in the top right corner
4. Click on the “Find a State Meeting” on the left-hand side and choose the sport of “volleyball”
5. Once the meeting is completed, you will receive credit. You will know when the credit is earned when you are at the “timestamp” screen

***Note – you may leave the meeting and come back in at the same spot you left off. ***

DATES & DEADLINES

The deadline for completion of Rules Meeting is **Monday, August 17 at 11:59 PM** or a \$50.00 late fee is charged for missing the first deadline.

The final deadline is Monday, September 28 at 11:59 PM. Beginning on Tuesday, September 29 at 12:00 AM, the Volleyball Rules Meeting is no longer available and the penalty shall apply.

The penalty for not viewing the Volleyball Rules Meeting by September 28 at 11:59 PM is **REMOVAL FROM THE POSTSEASON TOURNAMENT.**

OHSAA VOLLEYBALL REGULATION CHANGES

The following OHSAA Volleyball Regulations were proposed by the Ohio High School Volleyball Coaches Association (OHSVCA) and approved at the June Board of Directors Meeting. Please thank your OHSVCA District Representatives for their hard work in ensuring the sport of volleyball in the state of Ohio continues to grow!

If you are not currently part of the OHSVCA but would like to be, please visit their website at www.ohsvca.org to learn more.

VOLLEYBALL REGULATION 1

The OHSAA Volleyball Regulations (Regulation 1) now permits the use of the libero (1) in grades 7-8 and the use of the libero (2) in grades 9-12. Please keep in mind that while the use of the libero will be permitted in grades 7 & 8 starting August 2026, it is not required for a 7th or 8th grade team to use the libero if they do not wish to do so.

RATIONALE: Introducing the libero role in grades 7 & 8, should allow for athletes to transition to the libero position at the high school level smoothly, making them comfortable with the rules, rotations and responsibilities associated with the position in grades 7 & 8. Utilizing the libero in grades 7 & 8 may also increase the opportunities for player development, enhance team dynamics and competitiveness and allow coaches more flexibility in player rotations.

NFHS VOLLEYBALL RULE CHANGES

The 2026-27 NFHS Volleyball Rule Changes are covered in greater detail in the 2026 Volleyball Rules Meeting and Coaches Manual. Please see below for a quick summary of changes. **NOTE:** the changes are highlighted in gray, followed by the explained rationale.

4-2-1a, 4-2-1i (3) (NEW), 4-2-2:

Like-colored uniform bottom:

1. Multiple styles of uniform bottoms may be worn by teammates and may include: shorts, spandex, pants or skirts.
2. A visible undergarment may be worn under the uniform bottom. It shall be unadorned and of a single, solid color similar to the predominant color of the uniform bottom or be solid black, white or gray and may extend below the uniform bottom. All team members must wear the same color undergarment.
3. The libero may wear any color uniform bottom

RATIONALE: Team members may wear black, white or gray undergarments in addition to undergarments that match the predominant color of the uniform top/bottom under the uniform top and/or bottom. All team members, other than the libero, wearing an undergarment must wear the same color. The uniform bottom of the libero may be any color however; the colors must contrast with the colors of the rest of the team.

5-3-3c, 5-7-3d, 6-4-2, 8-1-6, 9-8-2, 10-3-6c, 10-4, 11-4-1b:

Liberos:

1. A team may position two athletes as the libero starting August 2026. However, one libero may participate in the game at one time. When two liberos are assigned, either may serve in that position, but not at the same time.
2. The exchange and replacement of liberos *do not count* as a substitution and are unlimited to the number of exchanges/replacements. Replacement/exchange regulations still apply regarding location and time.
3. A team that assigned two liberos and one is disqualified; the team must continue the game with the one assigned libero.
4. For each set, a team may designate up to a total of two liberos (zero, one, or two)

6-5-1:

Players on the serving side of the net shall not take action to obstruct the view or path of the ball on the receiving side of the net. Players on the serving side are forbidden to raise their hands above the net during a serve. The ball must be beyond the net to continue playing.

12-2-8m (NEW):

It is an unsporting conduct violation if coaches, non-playing teammates or any uniformed players use props on the bench or near the bench area during a celebration

6-4 PENALTIES 1 (NEW), 12-2-8b NOTE (NEW):

If a non-playing/non-uniform teammate enters the court during set play, that is illegal alignment and a point will be given to the opposing team unless a non-player enters the court to facilitate a conduct violation (violence, disrespectful language, etc.). It remains a conduct violation if a coach or non-uniformed player enters the court during live play.

9-2-1 NOTE 1 (NEW):

Players should not wear any audio or video devices during any match.

3-2-1 NOTE (NEW):

NOTE: Beginning in 2026-27, by state association adoption, the volleyball may be spherical with a laceless molded cover of genuine, simulated textured leather (not suede) panels. No limitation on color combinations or number and shape of panels. All measurements and weight requirements still apply.

RATIONALE: Beginning with the 2026-27 school year, state associations may adopt the use of a non-smooth or textured volleyball for either boys or girls volleyball.

NOTE: The OHSAA will permit the use of the **textured** volleyball for Boys Volleyball ONLY, and **NOT for Girls Volleyball**.

4-2-4d, f:

The number shall be:

- d. Located on the upper front and back of the uniform top. Beginning July 1, 2029, the number on the front of the uniform must be centered on the upper half of the uniform top and the requirements in item f. will be eliminated.

RATIONALE: Beginning July 1, 2029, the number on the front of the uniform must be centered on the upper half of the uniform top eliminating the measurement requirements from the shoulder seam and neckline creating consistency in number placement.

Important Date Reminder:

The last day to enter/withdraw from the tournament **without a penalty** is September 28th, 2026, at 11:59pm.

Thank you!



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