

Sask Volleyball and SHSAA

Behavior Policy

It has been determined that behavioral issues are becoming more and more prevalent in the game of volleyball. As such, a behavior policy is being implemented as a means of curbing such occurrences. This policy is meant to serve as a reminder of the Code of Ethics for Referees, the Code of Conduct for Participants, as well as guide the officials in the appropriate measures for applying sanctions (Rules 20, 21 and Misconduct Sanction Scale (2013-14 Rulebook)).

Participants (players and coaches)

Participants need to recognize that officials have differing perspectives on what is and is not considered an emotional reaction. The following scenarios are examples of actions that must be dealt with appropriately.

- The 1st or 2nd official hears foul language used by a participant that is loud enough to be heard by spectators, regardless of where the language is directed
- A coach yelling across the court to question a referee's decision
- Verbal comments or gestures by participants directed at an official (including line judges) in regards to a call made
- When a ball (or object) is thrown, kicked or deflected in anger by any participant

The match official has the ability to determine the extent of the offence.

MINOR MISCONDUCT: It is the duty of the referee to prevent teams / players from approaching the sanctioning level.

Stage One: The 1st referee may limit the sanctioning to a verbal warning. The official uses their whistle and makes an indication the conduct must stop. A verbal warning is not recorded on the score sheet.

Stage Two: This is a formal warning. The official warning (yellow card) is given to the player/coach but also applies to the ENTIRE TEAM. Only one official warning is given to a team for the duration of the match. Repetition of minor offences by the same team in the same match will be sanctioned progressively.

MISCONDUCT LEADING TO SANCTIONS:

If considered more serious, the 1st referee shall consider the action in relation to the sanction scale and will apply the appropriate sanction. Sanctions are applied based on the following:

- **Rude Conduct:** actions contrary to good manners or moral principles, or expressing contempt
- **Offensive Conduct:** defamatory or insulting words or gestures. Repeated rude conduct
- **Aggression:** physical attack or intended aggression

Note: There does not have to be a verbal warning or a formal warning to an individual or team before the official applies the appropriate sanction.

Volleyball Canada, Sask Volleyball, and SHSAA recommend that there be a zero tolerance approach to misconduct.

MISCONDUCT: PARTICIPANT CONDUCT

Sask Volleyball and SHSAA would like all head coaches, assistant coaches, and other members of the team personnel to familiarize themselves with the regulations for Misconduct that are included in the rule book. There will be a zero tolerance approach to any situations in which these regulations are not respected.

The following is an excerpt from the Indoor Volleyball Rulebook

(Chapter Seven – Participants’ Conduct, Pages 40-41)

20. REQUIREMENTS OF CONDUCT

20.1. Sportsmanlike Conduct 20.1.1. Participants must know the “Official Volleyball Rules” and abide by them.

20.1.2. Participants must accept referees’ decisions with sportsmanlike conduct, without disputing them. In case of doubt, clarification may be requested only through the game captain.

20.1.3. Participants must refrain from actions or attitudes aimed at influencing the decisions of the referees or covering up faults committed by their team.

20.2. 20.2 Fair-Play 20.2.1. Participants must behave respectfully and courteously in the spirit of FAIR PLAY, not only towards the referees, but also towards other officials, the opponents, teammates and spectators.

20.2.2. Communication between team members during the match is permitted (*Rule 5.2.3.4*).

21. MISCONDUCT AND SANCTIONS 21.1. Minor Misconduct:

Minor misconduct offences are not subject to sanctions. It is the 1st referee’s duty to prevent the teams from approaching the sanctioning level. This is done in two stages:

- **Stage 1:** by issuing a verbal warning through the game captain;
- **Stage 2:** by use of a YELLOW CARD to the team member(s) concerned. This formal warning is not in itself a sanction but a symbol that the team member (and by extension the team) has reached the sanctioning level for the match. It is recorded in the score sheet but has no immediate consequences.

21.2. Misconduct Leading to Sanctions

Incorrect conduct by a team member towards officials, opponents, team-mates or spectators is classified in three categories according to the seriousness of the offence.

21.2.1. Rude Conduct: action contrary to good manners or moral principles.

21.2.2. Offensive Conduct: defamatory or insulting words or gestures or any action expressing contempt.

21.2.3. Aggression: actual physical attack or aggressive or threatening behavior

21.3. Sanction Scale

According to the judgment of the 1st referee and depending on the seriousness of the offence, the sanctions to be applied and recorded on the score sheet are: Penalty, Expulsion or Disqualification.

21.3.1. Penalty

The first rude conduct in the match by any team member is penalized with a point and service to the opponent.

21.3.2. Expulsion 21.3.2..1. A team member who is sanctioned by expulsion shall not play for the rest of the set, must be substituted legally and immediately if on court and must remain seated in the penalty area with no other consequences. An expelled coach loses his/her right to intervene in the set and must remain seated in the penalty area.

21.3.2..2. The first offensive conduct by a team member is sanctioned by expulsion with no other consequences.

21.3.2..3. The second rude conduct in the same match by the same team member is sanctioned by expulsion with no other consequences.

21.3.3. Disqualification 21.3.3..1. A team member who is sanctioned by disqualification must be substituted legally and immediately if on court and must leave the Competition-Control Area for the rest of the match with no other consequences.

21.3.3..2. The first physical attack or implied or threatened aggression is sanctioned by disqualification with no other consequences.

21.3.3..3. A second offensive conduct in the same match by the same team member is sanctioned by disqualification with no other consequences.

21.3.3..4. The third rude conduct in the same match by the same team member is sanctioned by disqualification with no other consequences.

21.4. Application of Misconduct Sanctions 21.4.1. All misconduct sanctions are individual sanctions, remain in force for the entire match and are recorded on the scoresheet.

21.4.2. The repetition of misconduct by the same team member in the same match is sanctioned progressively (the team member receives a heavier sanction for each successive offence).

21.4.3. Expulsion or disqualification due to offensive conduct or aggression does not require a previous sanction.

21.5. Misconduct Before and Between Sets

Any misconduct occurring before or between sets is sanctioned according to *Rule 21.2 & 21.3* and sanctions apply in the following set.

21.6. Summary of Misconduct and Cards Used • Warning: No Sanction (Stage 1: Verbal Warning, Stage 2: Symbol Yellow Card)

- Penalty: Sanction - Symbol Red Card
- Expulsion: Sanction - Symbol Red + Yellow Cards Jointly
- Disqualification: Sanction - Symbol Red + Yellow Cards Separately