

SUGGESTED PROTOCOLS TO FOLLOW FOR VB

OFFICIALS SAFETY REQUEST

- **Officials are not responsible for players, coaches, fans not following policy UNLESS it directly affects the official's personal well-being.**

HOST SCHOOL

- Turn down or turn off music during the coach's pre-match meeting with the officials.

EVERYONE

- Follow WOA/WIAA guidelines for face coverings (coach will acknowledge waivers for non-mask application.)
- Officials and LJs will not handle game balls after the referee has checked the game ball(s) pressure of the sanitized balls. Use hand sanitizer to moisten the needle before measuring – do not put the needle in your mouth.
- The server should set the ball on the floor during a timeout.

OFFICIALS

- Follow WOA/WIAA guidelines.
- May or may not have their temperature taken on site, recommend taking at home prior to traveling to the match and if 100.4 or above, call assigner and do not officiate.
- Come dressed to officiate; a locker room will not be provided.
- Are recommended to bring their own food and water.
- Electronic whistles are preferred, but a whistle under the mask is acceptable.
- Should bring their own pen to sign the score sheets.
- Should remain 6 feet apart from other officials, coaches, players, and fans.
- Will not be expected to monitor the physical distancing of others.
- Should bring your own hand sanitizer/wipes. You can also bring these to the referee stand.
- Are encouraged to have a pre- and post-match briefing while maintaining physical distancing.
- Line judges should bring/use their own flags or use hand signals – both line judges should use the same method (flags or hand signals).

PRE-MATCH CONFERENCE

- Shared warm-ups will be suspended during the pre-match conference and timed warm ups will begin at the conclusion of the conference. The head coach from each team and the R1 and R2 will meet at center court – with 1 coach and 1 official on each side of the net.
- Timed warm up is 8 shared court, 6 minutes home full court, 6 minutes visitors full court.

- No coin toss at pre-match conference. The visiting team will serve first in set 1 and alternate first serve for the remaining non-deciding sets.
- If there is a deciding set, the coin toss will be called by the home team at center court with one captain from each team and the second referee, maintaining physical distance. The choices will be to serve or receive, not changing sides.
- Rosters are not submitted at the pre-match conference although verbally validated by coaches. Rosters will be placed on the scorer's table before the 10-minute mark.
- Lineup sheets will be placed on the scorer's table 2 minutes prior to the start of each set.

TEAM BENCHES

- Schools will decide if they have enough space for players and coaches to physically distance on the bench (or chairs). If there is no bench, players must stay 6' from the sideline and beyond the extension of the attack line.
- Chairs must be provided for the coaches to sit in case of a sanction.

DURING THE MATCH

- Officials will follow normal National Anthem protocol, but remain 6 feet apart. Officials should stand on the R1 side of the court. R1 and LJ1 on left side of the net (looking from the scorer's table), R2 and L2 on the right side of the net. LJs should stand nearer the attack line for physical distancing.
- At the conclusion of the National Anthem and introductions, R1 will blow the whistle and signal for the teams to take the court.
- At the conclusion of the set/match, the R1 will blow the whistle, show end of set signal, blow whistle, signal release the teams to their benches.
- Masked players may have a "Recovery Pause" after a long rally. Player shall either turn away from the court or put up her hand to signal she needs a short recovery pause.
- Officials must scan the court and pay close attention, looking for any players that may need a recovery pause after a long rally.
- Head Coach may approach the R2, between the endline and the 10' (attack) line, with clarifying questions, not related to judgement, and to make requests (timeouts, substitutions, etc.)
- Officials are encouraged to remind coaches of proper physical distancing in regard to communicating with the R2.
- Coaches and players nose and mouth must be covered when speaking to officials and must be at least 6' from the official.
- Excessive reminders of proper physical distancing and/or not having the mask covering their nose and mouth when conversing with officials may result in a delay sanction.
- Captains may briefly approach the stand to ask a clarifying question.

Playing with one referee and/or less than 2 line judges or any other combination thereof is **NOT** a valid basis for a protest.

If protocols are not in place or adhered to by the school's game day staff, officials and line judges should attempt to work with the school administrator to make it safe and then report the situation to the assigner to report up to WOA. (*Complete guidelines are outlined in the WOA Protocol for Enforcing Physical Distancing document on the Central Hub.*)