

**Volleyball Officials Memo #1**  
**September 2, 2021**

Hello to all! I hope everyone has had a smooth transition into the volleyball season. Here are a few things to remember while you are officiating matches.

- **NFHS Spandex Rule Modification** – The modification is outlined on the IGHSAU website if you need to review it. The modification allows for athletes to play with multiple logos on the waistband only.
- **NFHS Hair Adornment Rule Modification** – Rule 4-1-6 – While the NCAA and USA Volleyball have rules language that allows for hair adornments, these items are noncompliant per NFHS rules. The NFHS Volleyball Rules Committee is sensitive to how this rule is enforced. The committee believes equipment rule compliance begins with coach/player education and responsibility to ensure all players are properly equipped falls directly on head coaches.
  - a. In the instance a player is found to be wearing a hair adornment(s) not meeting the requirements of Rule 4-1-6, the following steps may be taken by the officials to avoid disqualification or cutting out of secured hair adornments:
  - b. Notify the head coach of the rule violation (be proactive and watch players in warmups for this violation).
  - c. If the adornment **can** be easily removed, it must be removed before they may play.
  - d. If the adornment **cannot** be removed easily, the player must secure the adornment(s) in a way it is not a risk to anyone (i.e. pulling their hair with the adornments not being able to swing freely).
  - e. The athlete will be allowed to compete in that match with adornment removed or secured.
  - f. At the conclusion of the match, official should notify the IGHSAU.
  - g. IGHSAU will inform AD/head coach that their team needs to be properly equipped the next match.
- **Jewelry** - Players may NOT use plugs, strings, rubber spacers, plastic spacers, straws, retainers, etc. in lieu of the actual piece of jewelry during competitions. All items (metal or otherwise) are considered jewelry and not permitted per NFHS rule. Daith piercings (for migraines) are permitted to be worn, provided the school's athletic director has obtained permission by providing a doctor's note to the IGHSAU stating a medical need for the piercing. **PLEASE be proactive. Watch the warmups and try to prevent issues. Know the rules for jewelry and hair adornments.**
- Please review **Rule 7** about Rosters and Lineups. Officials need to ask coaches for their rosters so we can get the coaches in a habit to get them to us at the appropriate time. Please enforce getting the rosters at the pregame meeting and that rosters and lineups remain at the bench throughout the sets.
- I've received some questions if line judges need to be adults. We prefer adults serve as line judges for regular season matches and weekend tournaments, however we know often times at weekend tournaments students are used. There is no rule in the rule book on this so please make sure your pregame meeting with the line judges is informative for adults and high school age people alike.
- Lineup cards should be used. Write down the lineups on a card with two minutes left in the pre-match warm-up and one minute left in-between sets. That is all they need to be used for.

Best of Luck in your upcoming matches. Please feel free to email me anytime at [debricharz@ighsau.org](mailto:debricharz@ighsau.org) if there is something I can help with. Here's a question to ask yourself every time before you work a match:

**ARE THE DECISIONS WE ARE ABOUT TO MAKE  
IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE IOWA GIRL?**