

Candidate Criteria Sheet

First Referee

Judgment

- Calls a fault if a ball touches or illegally crosses over/outside an antenna.
- Makes judgment based on actual contact rather than body position or technique. Avoids “automatic” calls based on a particular situation. Avoids preconceived judgments.
- Recognizes and calls back row player faults and illegal attacks from libero sets. Shows awareness when these plays occur.
- Maintains standards from set to set within a match.
- Judges all players the same, regardless of whether they are setters, hitters, defensive specialists, etc.
- Recognizes and calls position/rotation faults on serving team.
- Is observant for screens or potential screens and appropriately prevents. Calls screening when needed.
- Follows fast play at the net and adjusts to tempos within a rally.
- Detects and calls touches off the block.
- Makes quick, accurate judgment calls; not influenced by ball spin, crowd or participant reactions, etc.
- Calls net faults appropriately, but gives second referee time to call most nets. Allows appropriate and consistent latitude on net contacts that do not interfere with play.
- Applies the same standards for both teams.
- Allows appropriate length of contact for various actions (1- and 2-handed sets, passes, blocks, tips, attacks, etc.).
- Allows appropriate latitude on tips and attacks, and judges them consistently.
- Allows appropriate latitude on sets and judges them correctly as throws or double hits.
- Allows appropriate latitude on passes and judges them correctly as throws or double hits.
- Allows appropriate latitude on net and block recoveries.
- Anticipates unusual situations – antenna plays, pancakes, etc.
- When teams have different degrees of skill, maintains consistency appropriate to both sides.
- Allows appropriate latitude on first team contacts and judges them consistently.
- Allows appropriate latitude on blocks that are given impetus and direction; judges other illegal block actions appropriately.
- Adjusts judgment to the level of competition.

Match Management

- Frequent eye contact with second referee & line judges.
- Acknowledges concerns of coaches & captains when they disagree, but minimizes delay of the match.
- Addresses team members respectfully & maintains a dignified manner.
- Maintains an approachable demeanor & a positive attitude.
- Conducts pre-match meeting and coin toss in a clear, concise manner.
- Fully briefs second referee on techniques & responsibilities. Instructs line judges & scorekeepers clearly & completely.
- Displays superior verbal & non-verbal communication skills, avoids inappropriate body language.
- Interacts well with co-officials, & accepts their assistance.
 - Encourages line judges to make their calls.
 - Allows time for scorekeepers to record events.
 - Allows the second referee to deal with his/her primary responsibilities (net, center line, an
- Initiates conversation with captains or other team members when appropriate; interacts professionally & efficiently without causing unnecessary delay. Displays & executes superior verbal & non-verbal communication skills; avoids inappropriate body language.

First Referee

Organization

- Demonstrates awareness of bench activity, including sub or timeout requests, second referee communications with bench personnel, substitute locations, libero exchanges, etc. Is aware of bench conduct & assists second referee with bench control if necessary.
- Gives verbal warnings at appropriate times with an appropriate demeanor.
- Follows specified match protocol; efficiently manages time.
- Inspects playing site & ensures that equipment & facilities meet accepted standards for play & for safety.
- Oversees warm-ups or delegates warm-up supervision to second referee.
- Establishes & maintains a brisk, but unhurried match tempo.
- Maintains awareness of on-court happenings – interference, injuries, spectators and/or media.
- Assesses sanctions when warranted or when requested by second referee, using appropriate procedures.
- Stays alert to safety issues from arrival to departure.
- Protects other officials from abuse by participants/spectators.

Positioning/Focus

- Does not follow ball (too high into the air), but utilizes a lateral eye movement to adjust focus to each point of contact.
- Maintains proper positioning and posture.
- Quickly adjusts position between plays to obtain the best view. Maintains a stationary position when ball is being contacted.
- Sees each contact of the ball, particularly third team hits near the first referee's stand
- Narrows focus to the plane of the net as the play moves into that area.
- Expands view as the play broadens.

Professionalism

- Maintains appropriate attitude throughout match.
- Projects confidence in oneself and the entire officiating team.
- Displays a calm, decisive manner and a low-key, cordial attitude.
- Treats the match and participants with respect and attention. Displays dignified conduct.
- Displays a spirit of cooperation toward officiating team, coaches, players, event management, and the media.
- Wears the correct uniform that is clean and pressed. Appearance is well-groomed and professional.
- Recovers after controversial or adverse situations and maintains appropriate tempo for the established level of play.

Signals/Mechanics/Techniques

- Whistle is clear, sharp, authoritative and audible. Varies whistle tones to differentiate match situations (for example, timeouts versus infractions versus an object on the court).
- Exhibits solid knowledge of current officiating techniques.
- Scans benches, court, and officiating team prior to each serve.
- Uses correct signaling sequence in appropriate tempo.
- Has quick reaction time with the whistle.
- Uses the correct hand signals. Signals are executed clearly and held long enough to be seen by everyone.
- Mimics signals initiated by the second referee, such as timeouts or substitutions. Mimics second referee fault signals (NCAA); repeats as a clarification when needed (USAV).

Second Referee

Judgment

- Recognizes and calls back row player faults and illegal attacks from libero sets. Shows awareness when these situations occur, legally and illegally.
- Adapts to level of competition
- Anticipates unusual plays, including antennas, pancakes, views back row attack hits near 3-meter line, et
- Calls net faults; allows appropriate latitude on net contacts that do not interfere with play.
- Detects and immediately indicates touches off the block after a rally.
- Recognizes and calls center line faults.
- Recognizes and calls position faults on the receiving team.
- Whistles antenna faults appropriately.

Match Management

- Makes eye contact with first referee at the end of rallies, & makes eye contact with other officials as needed.
- Initiates conversation with captains or other team members when appropriate; interacts professionally & efficiently without allowing unnecessary delay; displays & executes superior verbal & non-verbal communication skills.
- Addresses players/coaches respectfully, in a dignified way.
- Offers discreet assistance to the first referee on calls where the first referee may not have a clear view of the play.
- Coordinates the work of speed wipers & ball crew.
- Acknowledges concerns of coaches & captains when they disagree, but minimizes delay of the match.
- Displays superior verbal & non-verbal communication skills with other officials; avoids inappropriate body language.
- Maintains an approachable demeanor & positive attitude.
- Encourages co-officials after difficult decisions.
- Ensures lineup is correctly entered on scoresheet. Reviews duties with other score table staff. Communicates clearly with scorekeepers during the match.
- Reviews responsibilities & techniques with first referee.
- Is alert to addressing questions or concerns from line judges. Clarifies calls made by line judges when needed.

Organization

- Stays alert to safety issues from arrival to departure.
- Allows appropriate amount of time & ends timeout period with a warning whistle (if appropriate) & a final whistle. Informs first referee and coach/captain of the number of timeouts taken by each team.
- Obtains line-ups at specified times, & uses preventive measures to correct potential problems. Affirms uniform & player equipment legality. Checks rosters (if applicable). Controls intervals between sets.
- Helps first referee establish & maintain appropriate match tempo. Supervises floor wiping by players, minimizing delay.
- Observes & reacts appropriately to occurrences during play & between rallies.
- Ensures that team members remain in the bench or warm-up areas as appropriate. Is aware of bench conduct. Appropriately deals with questions & concerns from the bench. Addresses coaches' concerns out of the front zone, and does not delay the match.
- Checks lineups on the court prior to each set & identifies captains for first referee. Authorizes libero entry before set.
- Facilitates substitution from position near the score table & authorizes entry. Communicates status of substitution process to coach, scorekeepers, & first referee.
- Responds quickly to timeout & substitution requests from the bench while minimizing delays to the match.
- Makes decisions quickly & accurately.
- Facilitates communication among the benches, line judges, scorekeepers, first referee, game management, & media.
- Protects officiating team from abuse by players, coaches, & spectators.
- Efficiently controls, oversees & times warm-up periods.

Second Referee

Organization

- Gives verbal warnings at appropriate times with an appropriate demeanor.
- Requests sanctions from first referee when warranted.

Positioning/Focus

- After moving to blocking side, is able to further adjust position to see the play develop or assist first referee.
- Focuses attention on the blocking side of the net during play.
- Transitions immediately on service contact. Transitions quickly to the blocking side during rallies, but is stationary at ball contact.
- To give assistance or at the end of each rally, steps to one side of the net support and is clearly visible to first referee.
- Broadens and narrows focus appropriately during play.
- Establishes a position that enables view of both blockers and attackers through the net, shoulders/feet slightly angled to open body to attacker's side.
- Obtains a clear view of the receiving team prior to each serve, but is positioned so that peripheral vision can detect activity from the serving team's bench.
- Position is 3-6 feet from the net post as facilities allow.
- Is able to follow fast play at the net and adjust to varying tempos during a rally.

Professionalism

- Projects confidence in oneself and in the performance of the entire officiating team.
- Wears a correct uniform that is clean and pressed; is well-groomed and professional in appearance.
- Treats the match and participants with respect and attention. Dignified conduct.
- Displays calm, but decisive manner and a low-key but cordial attitude.
- Recovers after controversial or adverse situations and maintains appropriate tempo for the established level of play; handles unusual situations well.
- Maintains appropriate attitude throughout the match.
- Displays a spirit of cooperation toward officiating team, coaches, players, event management, and the media.

Signals/Mechanics/Techniques

- Uses the correct hand signals. Signals are executed clearly and held long enough for communication.
- Exhibits solid knowledge of current officiating techniques.
- Mimics all appropriate signals given by first referee, and is visible to first referee while signaling.
- Scans benches, court, and first referee prior to each serve and at the end of each play. Shows awareness of libero replacements and libero serving.
- Has quick reaction time with the whistle.
- Whistle is clear, sharp, authoritative, and audible. Varies whistle tones to differentiate match situations (for example, timeouts versus infractions versus an object on the court).
- Uses correct signaling sequence in appropriate tempo.