

NATIONAL HOME SCHOOL TOURNAMENT REFEREE GUIDELINES

First day – If you are assigned to the first match of the day, please arrive at 7:15 am to be ready for a 7:30 am meeting. Subsequent days: Arrive at least 30 minutes before your first scheduled match time.

Each day starts with a prayer at 7:45; followed by Star Spangled Banner and then the coin toss/warm-ups. It is up to you to make sure your court starts ON TIME. And it is up to you to make sure all subsequent matches start at the noted time.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

1. High school uniform – white/gray/blue polo shirt, black pants, black shoes and black socks.
- **Thursday** - white; **Friday** – gray (or white); **Saturday** – blue (or white). It is not critical if referees do not match.
2. Store your bag, coats, etc in the designated officials room, not in the hospitality room.
 - a. The officials room is the glassed in area by the front desk. The hospitality room is a roped off area located in the general concessions area. Keep all hospitality food in the hospitality area.
3. Bring flags, if you have them.
4. Teams will NOT switch sides.
5. The net system is suspended from the ceiling. The ladder for the referee stand must be raised at all times during the match. Ask a line judge or player to assist you in raising and lowering the ladder.
6. You may get off the stand in between sets to ensure the scorer is doing a good job. Especially since you might not have a partner.
7. General directions to the Iowa West Fieldhouse: if coming from the west on I-80, make sure you take the 24th St exit or the I-80 local exits. Or you could go north on I-29 and take the first exit. Follow the signs for the MAC (Mid America Center). We are NOT at the Iowa West Sportsplex.

FORMAT:

1. First round pool play
 - a. Most courts will play 2 sets to 25 points on the first day. Refer to the assignment sheet for specifics.
 - b. Information about the number of sets or match play for subsequent days will be noted on the scoresheet.
 - c. If auto 3, play all 3 sets as if they were the first 3 sets in a best 3 out of 5. No additional coin toss. Team who served first will serve first in third set.
2. Some divisions will only play 2 sets with each set counting towards the final tally.
 - a. Some sets will only play 21 point games. The set will start at 4 and all sets will finish at 25 points (or win by two, if necessary).
 - b. If a match is listed as 4-25, the first 4 points are marked off and the first score for either team will be point 5.
 - c. There is no cap on any games.
3. Bracket play
 - a. Gold; all matches will be best 2 out of 3, except for the final match which will be best 3 out of 5
 - b. Silver and Bronze; best 2 out of 3

COIN TOSS/WARM-UP's:

1. The first team listed is designated as the home team.
 - a. The winner of the toss gets choice of serve, receive or side of court.
 - b. The losing team chooses the remainder.
 - c. The serving team has the court first.
2. Warm-ups
 - a. First match for every team (usually the first two matches of each wave): 2 – 4 – 4 – 1

b. Subsequent matches: 1 – 3 – 3 – 1

3. The scoreboard should always reflect the team on a specific side of the court (not home/visitor).
4. Lineups must be turned in to the score table (referee) 2 minutes prior to the end of the official warm-up.

OFFICIATING (WORK) TEAM

(home team provides 3 workers and visiting team provides 2 workers)

1. R1 refs will be provided for all matches. R2 refs will be provided for all Gold bracket matches on Day 3.
2. Home team (first team listed or team on top of bracket)
 - a. provides 1 line judge
 - b. provides a scorekeeper. (Scorekeeper is responsible for sending a text message along with a picture of the scoresheet and/or score to 402.431.2699 after each match.)
 - c. provides 1 person to track the Libero with our Libero Tracker Sheet.
3. Visiting team
 - a. provides 1 line judge
 - b. provides 1 scoreboard operator. In the event the scoreboard malfunctions, the score will be shown with a manual flip chart corresponding to the side the team is on.

GROUND RULES

1. Net Support Cable/Poles
 - a. Rule 9.8.1i – A replay may be declared when: The ball contacts the cable(s) and/or diagonal pole(s) used to retract a ceiling suspended net system and, in the judgment of the referee, the ball would have remained in play had the cable(s) and/or the pole(s) not been there, and a player is able to make a legitimate play for the ball.
 - b. In addition, rule 9.3.3e states: A live ball becomes dead when: The ball contacts a wall or ceiling obstruction which is over a nonplayable area.
 1. The net support cable/pole on the bench side is over the bench area and thus is out of bounds.
2. A new written lineup must be turned in before each match.
3. Sport court rules in effect
 - a. Server must start with both feet touching the sport court. Feet may not be entirely on the concrete to start the service action.
 - b. If a ball goes 'off' the sport court, it can be retrieved by a player as long as the player is in contact with the sport court when playing the ball. After playing the ball, players may continue off the sport court with no penalty.

SCORESHEET

1. Make sure your name is noted on the scoresheet before the match begins.
2. At the conclusion of the match, make sure the scores are correct. The scorekeeper will report the scores.

GENERAL

Pay attention to your business and not to anyone else. Do not fraternize with the teams and coaches too much. Remember you can be friendly, but you cannot 'be their friend'. At some time you will need to make a fair judgment for a team, but if the coach thinks you are their friend, it can put you in a difficult position.

Pay amounts for National Home School Tournament

- \$20 for 2 (or 3) sets starting at 0 (or 4) to 25 points
- \$25 for all best 2 of 3 matches
- \$40 for best 3 out of 5 matches to 25 points (includes support crew)