

2022 NORTHERN LIGHTS March QUALIFIERS TOURNAMENT REFEREE GUIDELINES

Friday Mar 18, Saturday Mar 19 and Sunday Mar 20
Friday Mar 25, Saturday Mar 26 and Sunday Mar 27

All guidelines below are subject to change (even on short notice). We must all be prepared to make adjustments as necessary. All information is posted on my website at omnevb.net under the Northern Lights Qualifier tab.

REFEREE CHECK IN

Referee check-in will be on Thursday from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm. If you are in a hotel, you are expected to check-in during that time. If you are local, you do not have to drive in just for that purpose. If you cannot make it during that time, let me know. An additional check-in will be offered at 6:45 am on Friday morning. Do NOT be late!

COMMUNICATION

You should always be able to reach me by cell phone. Sue: 402-598-4782

PARKING

If you are local and driving in each day, keep your parking receipts and present them to me at the end of the tournament (with your name clearly printed on each one.) All referees with a hotel room are expected to cover their own parking charges.

SHIRT of the DAY

FR Mar 18 - white certified officials polo

SA Mar 19 - gray certified officials polo

SU Mar 20 - blue certified officials polo

FR Mar 25 - white certified officials polo

SA Mar 26 - blue certified officials polo

SU Mar 27 - gray certified official polo

Approved USAV outerwear or the NLQ jacket can be worn while on the stand.

MORNING MEETING

Every morning there is a daily meeting at 7:30 am to give you final instructions, words of wisdom, kudos, etc. If you are working the 8:00 am match, please be at the meeting.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Is held at 7:45 am. The serving team can start hitting immediately after the anthem.

ASSIGNMENTS

- Daily referee assignments will be posted on tm2sign.com. An email will be sent when the next day's schedule has been posted. You will enter match scores on your phone.
- Prior to the first match of each day, the first referee on the court will take one scoresheet, a game ball (if you are working on a 12's court, make sure you take a "Lite" ball), court towel, and pens and pencils.
- The game ball should never be left at the court unattended. After the morning session is complete, return the game ball to the championship desk, **but leave the pens/pencils, etc.** At the beginning of the afternoon session, take the appropriate game ball out to the court.

- If you are working more than one match in a row, you can take that many scoresheets with you. The scores of each match **MUST BE** entered immediately after the conclusion of the match. Then return the scoresheets as soon as possible.
- After each match, clean up the scoring table. Have the officiating team that is leaving take with them all bottles, food, and other assorted 'junk.' Throw away the used libero tracking lineup sheets.
- Any schedule adjustments will be made by the head referee. All matches are paid from the online schedule (and will be cross checked with the information from the scoresheets).
- When entering scores, make sure your screen has returned to the starting screen.

TEAM OFFICIATING ASSIGNMENTS

- Only a first referee will be assigned by the tournament to each match.
- Each team must provide a rostered adult second referee, 2 scorers (one of which must be the libero tracker and can also act as the scoreboard operator), a second 'flipper', and 2 line judges.
- The first match of each wave must start at the official start time (8 am or 3 pm). After that, if all three teams agree, matches may start up to 10 minutes ahead of the scheduled start time. The last match of the session can start as soon as all teams agree.
- (Teams) late to officiate is defined as not being at the court ready to work at the conclusion of warm-ups. For every minute, a work team is late or incomplete, a point per minute is given to their next opponent up to 25-0 forfeit. A second offense results in the loss of their next match.
- As soon as you know a team could be late, contact me.

TWO (2) VISUAL SCORING DEVICES

There are two flipcharts on each court. One flipchart stays on the scoring table. The other flipper **needs to sit in a chair** on the first referee side of the court (on the opposite side from the scoring table), preferably in the first chair by the referee stand. If a spectator sits in that chair, you must inform them that either they have a new job, or they must let the flipper sit there.

**Flip scoreboards will remain on the courts, even at the end of the night.
Put the one on the first referee side on the referee stand.**

SCORING TABLE

Only 3 workers are allowed to be at the scoring tables. The Beast ipad can be worked by a player sitting in a chair by the opposite flip chart.

TOURNAMENT FORMAT

All play is best 2 out of 3, 0-25, 0-15 in the third set. Teams will NOT switch sides at any time. Occasionally, a pool of 3 teams will play all 3 sets. A second coin toss will be conducted prior to the start of the third set.

COIN TOSS and WARM-UPS

At the coin toss, the winner of the toss gets choice of serve, receive or SIDE. Side is not determined prior to the coin toss.

For every team's FIRST match of the wave, there will be 5 minutes of shared court ball handling, followed by 4 minutes for the serving team and 4 minutes for the receiving team.

For the remaining matches, the warm-up time is:

- 2 minutes of shared court ball handling
- 4 minutes for the serving team to have the entire court, which includes serving
- 4 minutes for the receiving team to have the entire court, which includes serving

The shared court time should start as soon as you arrive at the scoring table (or as soon as the scorer from the previous match leaves the table). The serving team's court time should start immediately after the coin toss.

LIBERO UNIFORM

Libero uniforms must be clearly contrasting (i.e., light and dark, etc.). Burgundy (maroon) and black are not contrasting, royal blue and black are not contrasting, white and light pink are not contrasting. The Libero shorts may be a different color than the rest of the team. Just because 'you' can tell the difference, does not mean that it's legal. If the Libero uniform is not clearly contrasting, ask the coach if they have another option.

SPORT COURT RULE

- A player must be in contact with their Sport Court while playing the ball that has gone into a non-playable area. After playing the ball, the player may follow through off their Sport Court up to the extended sideline of an adjacent court.
- USAV 12.3: The serve: Both of the server's feet must be in contact with the playing surface before the serve is authorized. If this is not the case, the 1st referee will direct the player onto the playing surface before authorizing the serve. Part of the server's foot/feet may be in contact with the secondary surface/non-playing area. It is a fault when a server steps completely off the playing surface after the authorization to serve. Servers must be completely on the Sport Court prior to initiating the serve.
- Substitutions that are standing at the end of the bench must be standing off the sport court.

OTHER SPECIAL RULES

Liberos may be designated 2 per match or 1 per set. Both Liberos can serve as long as it is in the same serving rotation position.

There is NO step-in service line for 11's or 12's. However, the net is shorter and a light ball is used.

SCORESHEETS - Complete all the official information on the scoresheet prior to the beginning of the match. I would prefer not to have to track you down because you did not complete the scoresheet accurately.

- Check the court number on your scoresheet as you are walking to your match. Check the team names on the scoresheet before you start the match to make sure they are the correct playing teams.
- Make sure the scorer has written in the correct TEAM names prior to the beginning of the match. The scoresheets have team code names on them, and sometimes the codes can be similar. Make sure you have given the scorer the correct information about which team is which.
- **If necessary, you can briefly get off the referee stand between sets 1 and 2 to ensure that the scorer knows what she is doing. Check to make sure all information for the end of Set 1 is completed, including entering the winning and losing team names and scores, as well as circling the end score in each of the scoring sections. Also make sure a 'T-Bar' has been drawn over the unused points in the running score column. If this is done between the 2 sets, it makes the end process quicker. As soon as you know the scorer has an understanding of what is supposed to be done, you can return to the stand.**

AFTER THE MATCH

- As soon as the match is completed, get off the stand and go to the scoring table. You should get to the table before the scorer leaves the table. Walk around the teams. Do not wait for them to head to their bench. Watch the scorer finish the scoresheet, instructing her in correct techniques, if necessary. Do not keep the scorer at the table any longer than necessary, as she will usually be playing in the next match. **DO NOT** be overbearing with the scorer. It's okay if the sheet is not perfect. You should verify the correctness of the sheet and make any adjustments.

The first referee and the scorer sign the scoresheet at the end of the match to verify the results. Coaches no longer need to sign the scoresheet.

ENTERING THE SCORES

After each match, you will enter the scores of the completed match on your phone or into the iPad setup specifically for that purpose in the officials' room. All scores must be entered **immediately** after the match is completed. Do the coin flip for the next match, then enter the scores while the warm-up is taking place.

TIME MANAGEMENT

Be courtside when the previous match is completed. Do not have the referee that is supposed to be off come looking for you. TIME MANAGEMENT is a key factor. I know all of you can handle this concept. Let's make it work this weekend and get out of the gym at a reasonable hour.

- Unless you have a very competent second referee, you should time all timeouts and the time between sets. If you do not have a watch with a stopwatch feature, you should invest in one.
- You do not make the game go faster by making your signals faster, but you can speed up the entire match by being ready to signal for the serve as soon as the server walks into the service area. (You must be careful not to rush the server, but the server should not control the tempo of the match either.)

PROFESSIONALISM

- The coaches and players are not your friends.
- You should not make comments about how a team previously played, about any of the players' skills.
- You cannot comment to coaches, players, fans, etc., about another referee's performance.
- While you might address officiating team players by their first name during the match they are officiating, it is not necessary to address them personally at any other time.
- You have plenty of duties to take care of between matches which leaves little time for chit-chat.
- It is okay to just stand by and watch (without talking); it is not necessary for you to engage someone in conversation every single moment during warm-ups
- Touching players is prohibited (not on the shoulder, not on the arm, not anywhere, anytime).
- At no time, should you give information to a team about where they play next or how they finish. If they ask your opinion about where you think they finished, send them to the championship desk.
- Phones at courtside can be used to call the head referee if there is a problem or to check the time (actually you SHOULD have a watch with a stopwatch feature).
- You can take a **small** bag (only) that contains your whistles, cards, etc to the court. Leave all large bags in the officials' room. Briefcases, backpacks, and rolling suitcases cannot be taken to the court.

PROTESTS

If a protest is properly made prior to or concurrent with the first serve of any set the match, the first referee must find mea head referee. The protest will be resolved before the match commences.

If a protest is made and accepted by the first referee during the match, the set is immediately suspended. You should get off the stand and send someone from the officiating team to the championship desk to get the head referee (or you may call them, if you have a phone). The referee should return to wait beside the stand. While waiting for the head referee to arrive, the match referee should not discuss the issue with the coaches, players, or spectators.

UNUSUAL SITUATIONS

If any unusual situation (unruly/aggressive spectator) presents itself during a match, the referee should immediately recruit a responsible messenger to report the incident to the head referee, Arbitrator or Championship Desk. Someone will return to the court to manage the situation. There should be little or no delay in the match.

FINALS DAY

- Matches may start as soon as both teams are ready to play. Losing team stays on the court to officiate the next match. Tell them that at the coin toss.
- We do not have any extra people to cover for officiating teams that leave. If you let a team leave, you will be responsible for finding acceptable replacements
- When your court is finished, leave the flipcharts on the court as they get tucked in the referee stand. Return all other court supplies (pens, pencils, game ball, towel, etc) back to the Championship desk.

2022 NOTE SENT TO:

Coaches & Club directors,

We are aware that there are issues this year in obtaining uniforms due to the manufacturers supply chain problems.

To help alleviate this problem we are going to allow the following exceptions to the normal USAV uniform rules.

- A team which has multiple sets of jerseys must have their primary Jersey numbered with the numbers shown on their roster that is submitted at check in. The second and third set of jerseys may have a different number. This will allow a team to use "last years" jerseys as a second or third jersey if they have not yet received them for this year.
- A team which has multiple sets of jerseys may have their second and third jersey sets be "mismatched" in style/cut but should be **similar in color**. This means that all players would not need to have matching Jerseys for their second & third sets but the primary color of the Jersey should be basically the same for all jerseys. This would allow players to use old jerseys which may be a different style for their second and third set but are all similar in color.
- Regardless of the jersey being worn, each set of jerseys must not have any duplicate numbers within that set. This means there cannot be two players with the same number on the court and/or on the bench in a match.
- In all cases the libero must have a clearly contrasting color jersey with a number on it. It may be a different number from their first jersey on their second and third jersey.

Should a question concerning eligibility of a player using different numbered jerseys be raised, the player will be required to show a photo ID and valid USAV registration that must match the official roster submitted at check in.

These exceptions only apply to the Mizuno Northern Lights Qualifier 18's & 17's/January Thaw Tournament on January 29-31. These exceptions do not apply to any other event.