

# Significant Rule Modifications for 2009-2010

This is the Readers' Digest version of this year's rule changes. For the complete list, view <http://www.geva.org/files/2010/officials/09-10-New-Rules-Summary.pdf>.

## ► Juniors Warm Ups

### New

USAV 7.2.2.b: For junior competition, when one team has exclusive use of the court, the other team must either be at its team bench or out of the playing area. Warming up with balls at the team bench or in the spectator walkways is not permitted.

## ► Contact with the Net

### Changed:

11.3.1: Contact with the net by a player is not a fault, unless it interferes with the play.

#### Implication:

Gone from last year's rule is the phrase, "Unless made during the action of playing the ball". Note: interferes is different from distracting.

Also, "Interfering with play" is now defined in the rules (see 11.4.4). Read on...

### Changed:

11.4.4: "A player interferes with the opponent's play by (amongst others):

- a. Touching the top band of the net or the portion of the antenna above the top tape of the net during his/her action of playing the ball, or
- b. Taking support from the net simultaneously with playing the ball, or
- c. Creating an advantage over the opponent, or
- d. Making actions which hinder an opponent's legitimate attempt to play the ball."

#### Implication: Some of the situations that will not be called:

- a. A blocker who bodies the net on the way up (or down)
- b. An attacker who follows through and catches the middle of the net with fingers.
- c. A setter recovering the ball from the net who contacts the net, even if it is in the action of playing the ball.

### Changed:

11.3.2: Players may touch the post, ropes, or any other object outside the antennae, including the net itself, provided that it does not interfere with play.

Go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YGCD8wE50lw&NR=1> for some video on the topic. The clip shows how the fault was called last year (on the left) and how it will be called this season (on the right).

## ► Center Line

### Changed:

11.2.2.2: To touch the opponent's court with any part of the body above the feet is permitted provided that it does not interfere with the opponent's play.

**Implication:** Nothing has changed with regard to a player's foot penetrating into the opponent's court – part of the foot must be on/above the line for it to be legal. However, the change allows any other part of the body above the foot/feet to touch the opponent's court provided it doesn't interfere with play.

### ► Substitution Procedures

**New:**

15.10.3a: "The actual request for substitution is the entrance of the substitute player(s) into the substitution zone, ready to play."

**Implication:** There will be only one way to request a substitution – the entrance of the substitute(s) into the substitution zone, ready to play, during a regular interruption.

Referees cannot whistle until the sub enters the zone, the sub **MUST** make eye contact with the R2 before entering and see the entry signal before entering the court. The whistle is **NOT** authorization to enter – one of the substitutes **MUST** see the signal.

### ► Signing the scoresheet

**Changed:**

USAV 25.2.3.3: For JUNIOR COMPETITION, the coaches sign the scoresheet(s) after the match to verify the results. FOR ADULT COMPETITION, the team captains sign the scoresheet(s) after the match to verify the results.

**Implication:** Both coaches (not just the winning coach) are now required to sign the scoresheet, both non-deciding and deciding, at the end of the match to verify the results. The R1 is still required to sign it as well. Between the R1 and both coaches, plus a review by the scorer and R2, we're hoping to minimize mistakes.

### ► Other Changes

**Changed:**

USAV 4.5.1: ...Casts, even if padded, are forbidden.

**New:**

USAV 4.5.2: If a player's equipment falls to the floor and creates a safety hazard, play is stopped and a delay sanction assessed.

**Changed:**

6.1.3: Rally and completed rally. A RALLY is the sequence of playing actions from the moment of the service hit by the server until the ball is out of play. A COMPLETED RALLY is the sequence of playing actions which results in the award of a point.

**Implication:** This impacts when a Libero replacement, time out or substitution may occur. There must be a COMPLETED rally between Libero replacements. Similarly, after a team makes a substitution or time out request, there must be a COMPLETED rally before that team may make a subsequent request.

**New:**

USAV 15.2.2: A time-out before the start of a set is permitted.

**Implication:** This USAV clarification says a time-out request prior to a set is legal.