

# Middle School Volleyball Libero Rules

As stated in the NFHS Volleyball Rules Book

## Playing Actions:

1. The libero is restricted to perform as a back-row player, and is not allowed to complete an attack from anywhere (on or off the court) if, at the moment of contact, the ball is entirely above the height of the net.
2. The libero may not block or attempt to block.
3. A teammate may not complete an attack when, at the moment of the attack, the ball is entirely above the net and the ball is coming from an overhand finger pass by a libero on or in front of the attack line. The ball may be freely attacked if the libero overhand finger passes from behind the attack line. If airborne, the libero's position is judged according to the point of last contact with his/her team's court.

## Libero Replacements:

1. The libero is allowed to replace any player in a back-row position.
2. Replacements involving the libero are not counted as substitutions, and are unlimited. There must be at least one rally between two libero replacements. The libero can only be replaced by the player whom he/she replaced. An incorrect libero replacement is penalized with a delay of game if the officials identify and correct the situation prior to the next service contact. If identified after service contact, a position fault results.
3. Replacements can only take place after the end of a rally or at the start of each game after the umpire has verified the starting lineup. The replacement must occur while the ball is out of play and before the referee signals for serve. A replacement will not be allowed after the signals for serve.
4. A libero and the player replaced by the libero must enter or leave the court only by the sideline in front of their team bench between the attack line and the end line.

## Uniform:

The libero must wear a uniform top that is immediately recognized from all angles as being in clear contrast to and distinct from the other members of the team. The primary color of the libero's uniform top must be different from any color that appears no more than 25 percent of the body of her teammates' uniform tops. In determining the body of the uniforms, the sleeves and color should be ignored. The libero uniform must have a legal number. The style and trim of the libero's top may differ from her teammates' uniforms, but her shorts must be like-colored to her teammates.

## Libero Serving Rules

In one rotation, the libero may replace a player in the service position to serve. The libero may only serve in one position in the serving order. If the libero is in the game immediately prior to moving to a serving position there does not have to be a rally between libero replacements if the libero serves the next rally.

## Procedure:

1. The libero and the replacement must enter or leave the court in the libero replacement zone, over the sideline between the attack line and the end line.
2. A team is assessed an unnecessary delay for improper libero replacement procedures.
3. In one rotation, the libero can replace the player in the service position and serve the next rally even if she is already on the court in replacement of another back row player.
4. In this situation, the libero does not have to exit the court before replacing the player in the service position.
5. The coach is not required to indicate on the lineup sheet the position where the libero will serve. At any point in the game, the coach can determine the position where the libero will serve by simply having the libero replace that server.
6. Once the libero serves in a particular position in a game that is the **only** position where the libero is allowed to serve. However, the libero is not required to serve in that position for all subsequent rotations. The starting player, a legal substitute, or the libero can serve any rally that takes place whenever that position is in the service position.
7. The scorer must record on the score sheet when the libero serves during each game. The libero tracker must record the position where the libero serves on the Libero Tracking Sheet as well.