



## **INSTRUCTIONS TO NVL REFEREES: 2004-2005**

The following issues and questions have arisen since the last Referee Commission advice note; referees are advised to note the following interpretations, and implement with immediate effect.

1. Volleyball is, for some people, a "family" sport; this is good. When this extends to bringing small children to NVL matches, however, there is a potential problem. In general, only "authorised personnel" are permitted to sit on the team bench during a match: anyone other than listed players and bench personnel (as indicated on the match scoresheet) should be instructed to sit somewhere other than the team bench. In circumstances where small children (whose parents are participating in the match) appear in the vicinity of the playing area, efforts should be made to re-direct them to a place of safety. If no other supervision is possible, it would clearly be a risk to insist that children are separated from parents. In such circumstances, the referee should inform the responsible adult(s) that they must accept sole risk of any injury to their children; if this liability is not accepted, the match should not be allowed to proceed. All such incidents must be noted on the match scoresheet.
2. Some confusion has arisen regarding "attempts to serve". Rule 13.4 is clear - whilst "moving the ball in the hands" (including bouncing on the floor) is permitted, if a player "tosses or throws" the ball up, this constitutes an "attempt to serve" and is permitted only once.
3. It seems that some recently-sold match scorepads are not self-carbonating; if referees encounter problems with scoresheet copies, simply note the problem on the top (white) copy - obviously in such cases the teams will not receive their own yellow/pink copy of the scoresheet.
4. Referees are reminded to take particular care, in their pre-match equipment checks, to ensure that the referee stand is safe. Referees should not accept any responsibility for erecting or adjusting the post fittings and stand assembly. In case of any problems, representatives of the home team should summon professional staff from the venue to make any adjustments necessary on safety grounds. In all cases of inadequate provision of a safe referee stand, a note should be made on the scoresheet.
5. Referees are reminded that they have a responsibility to note, at the advice of the team concerned, all cases of NVL players who are "playing up" (under NVL Rule E5 vii). The normal pre-match check on registration cards should identify this situation.

Generally speaking, reports received from the current season have been favourable. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all NVL Referees, and also those who officiate in the regional and local leagues, for the important work you are doing for the sport of volleyball.

Bernard Kilkenny

Referee Commission President

March 2005