



March 11, 2026

NFHS Boys Volleyball Weekly Rule Interpretations

UNIFORMS

As boys volleyball seasons begin across the country, it is a good time for both coaches and officials to review uniform rules. The NFHS Volleyball Rules Committee takes uniform rules very seriously as they know that the decisions they make to ensure officials can properly adjudicate matches have an impact on school budgets. The NFHS highly recommends that coaches and athletic administrators work with their state associations when selecting new uniforms to ensure their legality.

SITUATION 1A: Team A's uniforms are faded gray to black, with numbers that are yellow with a double border trim (the uniform color and yellow). **RULING:** Legal. **COMMENT:** Single and double border/trim is legal, but the entire trim can be no wider than one-half inch at its widest point. The body of the number must clearly contrast from the uniform regardless of trim.



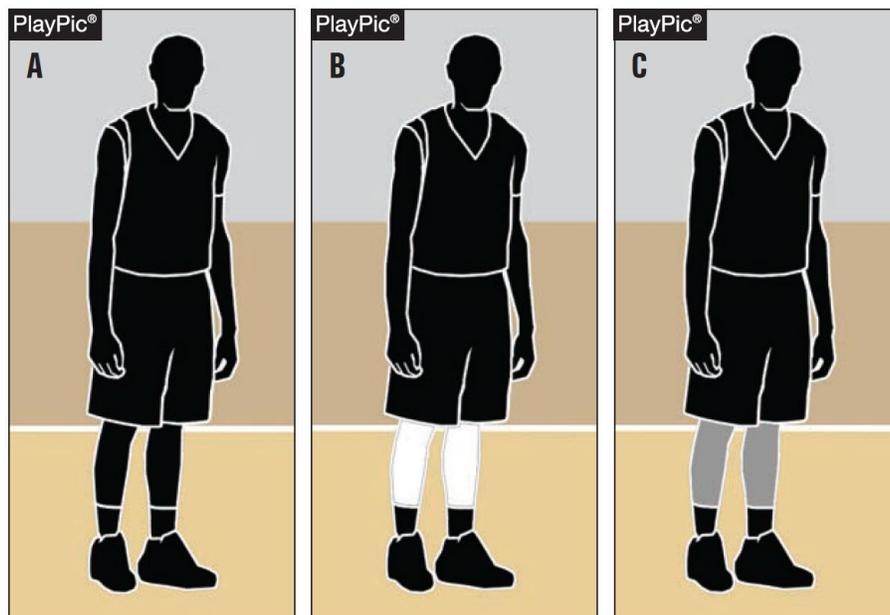
SITUATION 1B: Team A's uniforms include the above graphic located on the upper left sleeve. **RULING:** Illegal. **COMMENT:** Only the school's name, nickname, logo, mascot and/or team member's name are permitted on the uniform top and/or bottom. Established dates are not allowed on the uniform unless they are part of the recognized school logo or an approved commemorative patch not to exceed 4 square inches. (4-2-1e, 4-2-1g)

SITUATION 2: Uniforms on Team A are alike except: (a) sleeve length on jerseys vary; (b) some jerseys are faded; (c) players are wearing different styles of bottoms. **RULING:** All are legal.

COMMENT: Multiple styles of uniform tops and bottoms may be worn as long as they are like-colored. If a libero is used, the libero uniform top must clearly contrast from the predominant color(s) of the team uniform. (4-2-2)

SITUATION 3: The players on Team A are wearing shirts under their sleeveless red uniform tops. Players are wearing: (a) black short-sleeve undershirts; (b) white short-sleeve undershirts; (c) gray short-sleeve undershirts; (d) red short-sleeve undershirts. **RULING:** Legal. **COMMENT:** All players wearing a visible undergarment must wear the same color (the predominant color of the uniform top, solid black, white or gray). The libero does not have to match the teammates. [4-2-1h(3)]

SITUATION 4: Extending below a player's uniform bottom are: (a) solid black leggings; (b) solid white leggings; (c) solid gray leggings. **RULING:** Legal. **COMMENT:** The undergarment shorts must be the same color as the predominant color of the uniform bottom, solid black, white or gray. All team members must wear the same color undergarment. [4-2-1i(2)]



SITUATION 5: Team A wins the coin toss and elects to serve. The officials notice Team A is wearing illegal uniforms that cannot be fixed. Loss of rally/point is awarded to Team B. **RULING:** Correct Procedure. **COMMENT:** Team B will serve first up 1-0. Team A will rotate on Team B's next loss of rally. (4-2 PENALTY 5)

SITUATION 6: Team A is wearing t-shirts over their jersey's during warm-ups and the referees do not notice that the entire team is wearing illegal uniforms. During the first set, the second referee calls a net violation on Team A and notices the numbers are difficult to read and are in

fact illegal. The second referee completes the penalty administration and continues the set without penalty. **RULING:** Correct procedure. **COMMENT:** Once the first set begins and the officials did not apply the appropriate penalty before the match, play continues. At the conclusion of the match, the officials should notify Team A's head coach of their mistake, how the uniforms are illegal and that they will be notifying the state association. (4-2 PENALTY 5)