I. Playing the Game
A. An official team consists of six players.
B. The winner of the toss has a choice of first service or preferred court.
C. After the opening game, service is alternated.
D. The ball must be served by the player in the right back position.
E. The serving area shall be behind the end line and extend from sideline to sideline.
F. The service shall alternate when an official calls side-out.
G. When a side-out is awarded to a team, that team shall rotate on position clockwise.
H. The team’s first server should be identified by circling that player’s number on the line-up sheet.
I. It is not necessary for the entire ball to be on a player’s side of the net before it is played.
J. A ball in play which hits the net and goes over is considered good.
K. Any ball may be recovered from the net, provided the player does not touch the net.
L. A ball touching the boundary lines is considered good.
M. Each team may have one libero per game.

II. Illegal plays are:
A. Any player touching the net while the ball is in play.
B. Pushing or holding the ball against the net.
C. Reaching under the net while the ball is in play.
D. Stepping on or over the center line while the ball is in play. If the ball hits the floor and then a player steps over the center line, it shall be considered illegal.

III. Illegal serves are:
A. A ball that is not definitely hit (discretion of official).
B. A server commits a foot fault before the ball has left his/her hand.
C. A ball hits an overhead object directly over the court.
D. A ball is assisted by another player on the serve.

IV. Double fouls results when:
A. Players on opposing sides commit a foul simultaneously.
B. Even if the fouls do not occur at the same instant, a foul committed by a player in the same play at the net in which an opponent commits a foul shall be considered a double foul.
C. In case of a double foul, the play shall be repeated.
V. Additional Rules:
A. The ball may be contacted not more than three times before it is hit over the net.
B. The serve receive team (defense) may set the serve. It should be passed (under passed) on the first hit.
C. If the ball contacts any part of the player’s body below the waist, it is considered dead.
D. If two or more players of the same team contact the ball simultaneously, it shall be considered one play, and either player involved in the play may hit the ball again.
E. If two or more players of opposite teams contact the ball simultaneously, either player may hit the ball and count it as the first hit for that side.

VI. History:
* Volleyball originated in the United States in 1895 and has gained such popularity through the world that it was included by the Japanese, as host country, in their 17 selections for the 1964 Olympic Games for both men and women.
** Volleyball was devised by William C. Morgan, a student at Springfield College and later Director of Holyoke, Massachusetts, YMCA.

VII. Definitions:
A. Attacker: Also “hitter” “or spiker”. A player who attempts to hit a ball offensively with the purpose of terminating the play in favor of the player’s team.
B. Block: The combination of one, two, or three players jumping in front of the opposing spike and contacting the spiked ball with the hands; the action of stopping or slowing a spiked ball with the hands above the net.
C. Dead Ball: A ball temporarily out of play.
D. Float Serve: A serve hit so that the ball does not spin during flight.
E. Match: Winning two out of three games.
F. Scoring: Every mistake results in a point for the serving or receiving team. Rally scoring.
G. Service Team: Server continues to serve until the referee calls side-out.
H. Rotation: The shifting of all players in a clockwise direction.
I. Play Time: Game is complete at the end of 25 points. At a 23 points tie the team must win by 2 points.
J. Catching or holding: Player lifts, scoops, shoves or rests the ball momentarily in the hands.
K. Foot Fault: Server steps on or over the end line during the act of serving.
L. Forfeited Game: Occurs when (a) team has fewer than six players (b) a team refuses to play after being instructed from the official to do so – score 1-0.
M. Side-Out: Serving team fails to win its point or plays the ball illegally; the opposing team shall gain possession of the ball.
N. Dink: A light tap that drops the ball just over and behind the block (light spike).
O. Libero: Back row specialist, can not serve or attack from front row. He/she may back row attack from behind spiking line.

Positions and Numbers

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