



# NFHS OFFICIAL VOLLEYBALL SIGNALS

**1 Illegal Alignment/Improper Service/Inaccurate Lineup**



**2 Line Violation**



**3 Illegal Hit**



**4 Delay of Service**



**5 Over-the-Net**



**6 Net Fault or Net Serve**



**7 Legal Back-Row Attack**



**8 Illegal Attack**



**9 Illegal Block/Screening**



**10 Ball Touched**



**11 Four Hits**



**12 Double Hit**



**13 Ball Lands Inbounds**





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14 Out-of-Bounds/  
Antenna Violation



15 Begin Serve



16 Substitution



17 Authorization to Enter



18 Point



19 Replay/Re-serve



20 Illegal Substitution



21 Time-Out



21 A Team



21 B Official



22 Unnecessary Delay



23 End-of-Set



24 Change of Courts



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## HOW TO USE THE SIGNALS

### WHEN STOPPING PLAY, OFFICIALS SHOULD:

- **Sound the whistle** with authority;
  - **Signal result of play**, point/loss of rally, replay or reserve;
  - **Signal the violation**, and hold the hand and arm signal long enough to be seen;
  - **Verbalize the decision** when necessary, except #15, signal for serve. Signals are given with arm or hand on the side of the team involved. These signals shall be used by the first referee and second referee.
1. **Illegal Alignment/Improper Server/Inaccurate Line-up** – Circular motion with arm and hand outstretched on side of violating team; then indicate player(s) involved.
  2. **Line Violation** – Indicate the line where violation occurred by extending arm and pointing toward the line with the index finger.
  3. **Illegal Hit** – Slowly lift hand and forearm, palm up, on the side where violation occurred.
  4. **Delay of Serve** – Raise hand on server's side to head height with fingers spread, palm forward.
  5. **Over-the-Net Fault** – Pass forearm, palm down, over the net.
  6. **Net Fault or Net Serve** – Hand of outstretched arm on the side of the net on which the fault occurred. NOTE: The second referee is not required to touch the net or signal net serve.
  7. **Legal Back Row Attack** – Arm on attacker's side is extended, parallel to the floor at chest level, palm down. Make one slight horizontal sweeping motion.
  8. **Illegal Attack** – Raise hand beside head and rotate forearm forward and downward on the offending team's side.
  9. **Illegal Block/Screening** – Raise both hands to head height, palms forward.
  10. **Ball Touched** – Hand on offending team's side held beside head, palm toward head, then brush upward across fingertips one time with other hand, palm forward.
  11. **Four Hits** – Hand and arm nearest violating team raised, showing four fingers.
  12. **Double Hit** – Hand and arm nearest violating team raised, head high, showing two fingers.
  13. **Ball Lands Inbounds** – Extend one arm with an open hand palm forward toward the floor area between the attack line and the net on the offending team's side.
  14. **Out-of-Bounds/Antenna Violation** – Raise both hand head high fingers together, palms toward face, elbows bent.
  15. **Begin Service** – Extend arm towards server at shoulder height with hand perpendicular to floor, then whistle to serve and move the extended hand and arm in a sweeping motion to the opposite shoulder.
  16. **Substitution** – Two short whistles, rotate open hands at shoulder height two times.
  17. **Authorization to enter** – Extend the arm (palm forward) on the substitution side, and make a forward motion waist high toward the respective court.
  18. **Point** – Indicate point by extending the arm in the direction of the team that will serve next, palm perpendicular to the floor.
  19. **Replay/Re-serve** – With fist hands, thumbs up, and held shoulder height front of body.
  20. **Illegal Substitution** – Hold arm nearest offending team head height, open hand, fingers together, elbow bent, making two circles with the arm before pointing toward the court of the offending team followed by penalty signal.
  21. **Time-out** – Place the palm of a hand horizontally over a vertical hand on the side requesting the time-out, forming a "T."
    - a. Team Time-out – indicate court of team being charged;
    - b. Official Time-out – tap top of shoulders with hands.
  22. **Unnecessary Delay** – Both hands on hips, elbows out to side, then follow by either time-out or loss of rally/point signal.
  23. **End-of-Set** – Arms crossed in front of chest, hands open followed by a sweeping motion outward, releasing teams to team benches.
  24. **Teams Change Courts** – Raise forearms and swing right arm in front of the body and the left arm in back of the body with hands open.