

Adults vs. Students

Recently, there has been confusion on who schools may provide for table personnel and or line judges.

A few officials are telling schools they are required or must provide only adults for table personnel and or line judges. This is incorrect during regular season competition.

This is outside our jurisdiction as a certified NFHS official.

As we see in the below NFHS rule, the host school will secure all officials but nowhere does it say they must be adults.

NFHS rule 5-1-1: The match is administered by the first referee and the second referee. Assistant officials include scorer, libero tracker, timer and line judges. **All authorized officials shall be secured by the host school.**

Now let us review what CHSAA has sent to the schools.

2023 CHSAA Volleyball bulletin (line judges): Post season only – Line judges must be adults. If available registered officials shall be used.

2023 CHSAA Volleyball bulletin (selection of table personnel): Post season only - Appoint two to three competent and experienced adults.

Note: During regular season competition nowhere does it say in the CHSAA volleyball bulletin that adults must be used. Students may be used in place of adults.

To summarize, assistant officials are the responsibility of the host school, not the officials. The host schools have been given guidelines for post season, but not for the regular season. Therefore, **please do not impose your own rules onto the school.** Do your best to work with what the schools provide through a quick review of duties and responsibilities with assistant officials before your match (facilitate, administer, don't police).

Also, please review Rule 5-4-1 & Rule 5-5-1. We need to understand where our jurisdiction begins and ends.

If you have any questions and or concerns, please contact your area director for further clarification.

Cordially,

Bruce Bird

CVOA President