



September 3, 2025

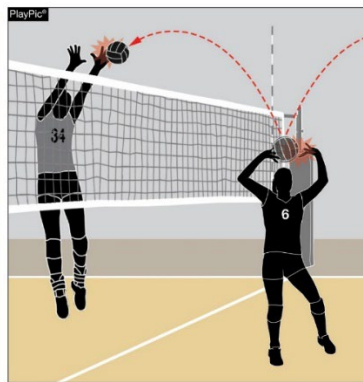
NFHS Volleyball Weekly Rule Interpretations

Ball-handling – The situations below can be found in the 2025-26 NFHS Case Book or the 2025-26 NFHS Rules Interpretations. They were developed to illustrate potential situations that could arise on a team's second contact when a double is committed. The change to rule 9-4-8 allows multiple contacts on the second team hit if the ball is next contacted by a teammate.

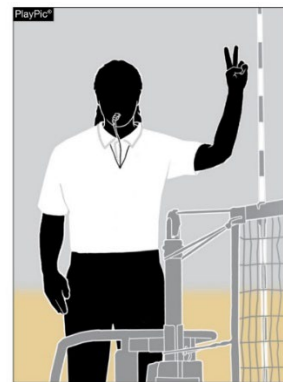
SITUATION 1: During play, the setter hustles to receive an errant pass and contacts the ball multiple times during one attempt to play the ball with an overhand pass for the team's second contact. (a) The volleyball enters the plane of the net and a teammate (attacker) and an opponent (blocker) simultaneously contact the ball; (b) The volleyball enters the plane of the net and the opponent (blocker) contacts the ball first. **RULING:** (a) Legal – play continues; (b) Illegal – double hit. **COMMENT:** Multiple contacts are permitted on the second team hit if the ball is next contacted by a teammate. Simultaneous contact by both teams is considered legal. Contact by the opponent after the attacking team's multiple contact is a fault by the attacking team. (9-4-8c)



**Simultaneous Contact –
Play-on**

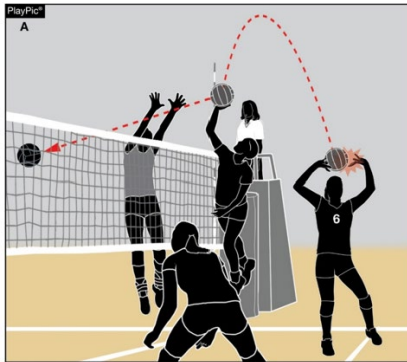


Double Hit - Fault



SITUATION 2: The setter on Team R runs down an errant first contact and contacts the ball first with the right and then the left hand on an overhand pass that is next contacted: (a) by Team R's RF; (b) simultaneously by Team R's RF and Team S's LF; (c) by Team S's LF. **RULING:** (a) and (b) legal; (c) multiple contact fault. **COMMENT:** On the second team hit, multiple contacts are permitted if the next contact is by a teammate. Simultaneous contact is considered contact by a teammate. (9-4-8)

a.



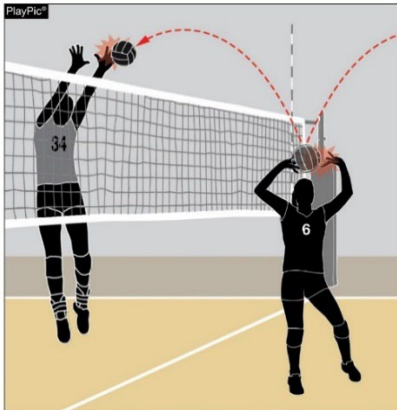
Legal Contact – Play-on

b.



Simultaneous Contact – Play-on

c.



Double Hit - Fault

SITUATION 3: The libero for Team R is hustling after a mishandled first contact and on one attempt to play the ball makes contact with the wrists and then the shoulder. The ball is next contacted by a teammate who sends it over the net to the opponent's court. Play continues. **RULING:** Correct procedure. **COMMENT:** The team's second contact can be multiple contacts as long as it is on one attempt to play the ball and the subsequent contact is made by a teammate. (9-4-8)



SITUATION 4: Team S's CF attempts to set the second team contact to a teammate and first contacts the ball with the left and then the right hand before sending the ball: (a) over the net and out of bounds; (b) into the antennae; (c) off the net tape and to a teammate who sends the ball over the net on the team's third contact. **RULING:** (a) multiple contact fault; (b) out-of-bounds fault; (c) legal. **COMMENT:** As soon as the ball has crossed the plane of the net after the second team contact, a multiple contact fault is called. Since the ball has not crossed the plane of the net before the antenna contact in (b), the call is out-of-bounds. (9-4-8)

SITUATION 5: Team A's back-row setter jumps to set a second ball above the height of the net and double contacts the ball directly into the hands of a Team B blocker reaching completely over the plane of the net. **RULING:** Over-the-net fault on Team B blocker. **COMMENT:** Team B blocker illegally contacts the ball which is completely on the opponent's side of the net. The double contact by Team A's setter was legal since the ball remained on Team A's side of the net for a Team A player to next play the ball. (9-5-1c, 9-6-3)

SITUATION 6: Team A's back-row setter jumps to set a second ball above the height of the net and double contacts the ball directly into the hands of a Team B blocker after the ball has entered the plane of the net. **RULING:** Illegal attack fault on Team A setter. **COMMENT:** Team A's setter commits an illegal attack as soon as the ball is legally contacted by the opponent, and this fault takes precedence over the double contact fault. (9-5-4)

NEW SITUATION: No. 3 on the receiving team double contacts the ball on the first contact. The setter, No. 6, chases down the errant pass and double contacts the second team contact sending the ball spinning toward the team bench on the receiving team's side of the net. In an attempt to keep the ball in the air, No. 12: (a) kicks the ball – redirecting the spinning ball over the net; (b) reaches out with a fist and punches the ball – redirecting the spinning ball over the net. In both situations, the ball remains in-bounds when played to the serving team's side of the net. **RULING:** Legal – no fault, play continues. **COMMENT:** The double contacts were made legally on the first and second contacts as the ball remained on the receiving team's side of the net after each contact. As long as the third contact is legal – there is no fault on the play. (9-4-8)

NEW SITUATION: The ball is double contacted by Team A on the team's second contact, sending the ball into the plane of the net. While the ball is in the vertical plane of the net, the back-row setter on Team B blocks the ball. **RULING:** Illegal Block. **COMMENT:** The double contact is not called since the ball is illegally contacted by Team B while in the plane of the net. Team A still had a chance to play the ball on the third contact when illegally contacted by Team B.