

VOLLEYBALL LINES PEOPLE INFORMATION

RULEBOOK:

29. LINEJUDGES

29.1 LOCATION If only two-line judges are used, they stand at the corners of the court closest to the right hand of each referee, diagonally at 1 to 2 m from the corner. Each one of them controls both the end line and sideline on his/her side (Diagram 10). Where possible, it is recommended to have four-line judges. They stand in the free zone at 1 to 3 m from each corner of the court, on the imaginary extension of the line that they control (Diagram 10).

29.2 RESPONSIBILITIES

29.2.1 The line judges perform their functions by using flags (40 X 40 cm) as shown in Diagram 12 to signal:

29.2.1.1 the ball "in" and "out" (Rules 8.3 & 8.4) whenever the ball lands near their line(s);

29.2.1.2 the touches of "out" balls by the team receiving the ball;

29.2.1.3 the ball touching the antenna, the served ball and the third hit of the team crossing the net outside the crossing space, etc.;

29.2.1.4 any player (except the server) stepping outside of his/her playing court at the moment of the service hit;

29.2.1.5 the foot faults of the server (Rule 12.4.3);

29.2.1.6 any contact with the top 80 cm of the antenna on their side of the court by any player during his/her action of playing the ball or interfering with the play;

29.2.1.7 ball crossing the net outside the crossing space into opponent's court or touching the antenna on his/her side of the court.

29.2.2 At the first referee's request, a line judge must repeat his/her signal.

HAND SIGNALS:

DIAGRAM 12: LINE JUDGES' OFFICIAL FLAG SIGNALS

1 BALL "IN"
Relevant Rule: 8.3, 29.2.1.1
Point down with flag




L

2 BALL "OUT"
Relevant Rules: 8.4.1, 29.2.1.1
Raise flag vertically




L

3 BALL TOUCHED
Relevant Rule: 29.2.1.2
Raise flag and touch the top with the palm of the free hand




L

4 CROSSING SPACE FAULTS, BALL TOUCHED AN OUTSIDE OBJECT, OR FOOT FAULT BY ANY PLAYER DURING SERVICE
Relevant Rules: 8.4.2, 8.4.3, 8.4.4, 12.4.3, 29.2.1.3, 29.2.1.4, 29.2.1.6, 29.2.1.7
Wave flag over the head and point to the antenna or the respective line



L

5 JUDGEMENT IMPOSSIBLE
Raise and cross both arms and hands in front of the chest



L

GUIDELINES :

Rule 29: LINE JUDGES

1. The line judges' work is very important, especially during high level matches.
2. The organizers must provide each line judge with uniform flags. The colour of the flags must be in contrast with the colour of the flooring (the flags should be red or yellow).
3. The line judges:
 - a. Must be present on the playing area, in uniform, 30 - 45 minutes before the match start time (60 minutes for international matches). (60 minutes in New Brunswick)
 - b. Are required to signal balls "in" or "out" close to the line of which they are in charge, service faults as per Rule 12.4.3.
 - c. If the ball touches the antenna, crosses over it, or flies outside it, into the opponent's court, the line judge facing to the direction of the ball, must signal the fault.
 - d. Faults should be signaled clearly, to ensure beyond any doubt that the first referee sees them.
 - e. Volleyball Canada Line Judge Presentation: <https://volleyball.ca/en/development/referee/rules-amp-guidelines#line-judgetraining>
 - f. In a case of using a Challenge system with the cameras positioned along the lines it is RECOMMENDED for line judges to occupy a position which will not cover the cameras sight, i.e., 0.2 – 0.3 m outside the line.
4. The line judge should relax between rallies.
5. The line judges should leave their position during TO and stay at the respective corners of the playing area, behind the advertising barriers.

FREQUENCY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Question14: Do the line judges wear their badges?

For domestic competitions, line judges do not wear their badges. However, for international competitions, line judges would be permitted to wear their badges.

Question 34: What signal does the Line Judge show for when the ball is deemed “Out” as per Rule 8.4?

To understand the clear and distinct usage of the correct Line Judge signal to use, we need to identify and understand the following definitions and in what circumstance they relate to Ball ‘Out’

1. Crossing Space

2. Playing Area

The first instance of ball out is when the part of the ball which contacts the floor is completely outside the boundary lines without being touched by a player on the receiving team. This instance can only be considered when the ball is legally sent to the opponent’s court through the crossing space. If this is the case, Line Judge Signal #2 must be used. The same would apply if the ball is sent to the opponent’s court through the crossing space and hits the wall or goes into the spectator seating area. Although the wall is considered an object outside the court as per Rule 8.4.2, it is logical to use Line Judge signal #2 to show the ball is “Out”.

Almost all other instances that result in Ball ‘Out’ (and the use of Line Judge signal #4) involve the ball physically contacting something within the playing area. Specifically, an object outside the court (E.g. referee stand), the ceiling, a person out of play, the antennae, ropes, post or the net itself outside the side bands. A person out of play is also limited to a person that is within the playing area. This means a member of the referee corps or the coach while they are walking within the free zone. In these situations, the line judge would use Line Judge signal #4 pointing to the antenna on his/her side of the court.

The team staff, substitutes, Scorer and Assistant Scorer, etc. are all situated outside of the playing area. If the ball contacts any of this latter grouping, the line judge must determine if the ball was legally sent through the crossing space as the determining factor for which signal is to be used. If the ball was sent through the crossing space legally, and touched by a player of the receiving team, the line judge would show Line Judge signal #3. If it is not touched by a player on the receiving team and contacts any individual list above, the signal would be Line Judge signal #2 (Out).

When the ball crosses the vertical plane of the net either partially or totally outside the crossing space, it requires a greater understanding of the ability of the athletes to play the ball back either totally or partially through the external space on the same side of the court.

- If a team chooses not to pursue the ball passed beyond the net through the external space, whether it lands in the opponent’s court, the opponent’s free zone or outside of the playing area, signal #4 is to be used.
- If a team does pursue the ball passed beyond the net through the external space, line judges must be very patient and observe what happens next.
 - o If the ball is played back totally or partially through the external space on the same side of the net, we must understand the legal nature of this occurrence and not make any signal
 - o If the ball is played back but goes completely through the crossing space, signal #4 must be used immediately to identify Ball ‘Out’

o If the ball is pursued, but is deflected into the opponent's court, beyond the opponent's free zone, etc. signal #4 is used to identify Ball 'Out'

Please refer to the Line Judge Training presentation at <http://www.volleyball.ca/en/development/referee/rules-amp-guidelines>.

Question 37: When only 2 line judges are used, where should the line judge be positioned when the server is on his/her side of the court?

When the server has taken their starting position to serve near the line judge, the line judge should position themselves along the end line in order to see the contact of the server's foot (feet) with the end line at the moment of the service hit (or take off for jump serve). Rationale With the other players on the court possibly obscuring the view of R1 of the server contacting the end line with his/her foot (feet) at the moment of the service hit (or take off for jump serve), the line judge will be in position to see and signal the fault of the server. It is important to note that the line judge, after the service hit, must move quickly into position to ensure that the served ball does not cross the plane of the net outside the crossing space and that the line judge is in position to see the ball land in or out along the side line.