

### Let's Talk October Volleyball

Now that the dog days of summer are over, let's take a good look at what **your uniform** should look like. Volleyball officials are to wear **CLEAN white MHSAA emblem shirts, black dress pants, black socks, and black shoes.** Whistles should be a black lanyard with a black whistle, however, it is acceptable for October that you may wear a *pink lanyard and pink whistle* as long as your partner wear theirs. **Shorts are no longer in people!**

Speaking of uniforms, remember the **Libero uniform** must clearly and immediately recognized (Rule 4-2). If there is any team that is still NOT in compliance, inform the coach and ask if they have another shirt. If not, allow team to play but take a photo of team shirts and send to MHSAA.

During October, many teams have a **PINK OUT DAY** to bring awareness to Breast Cancer. Teams are allow to wear pink apparel but still must comply with the uniform rules. Teams get very excited about being Pink, but what happens when the team wears reflective, sparkling headbands, or breast cancer charms on their shoes? You can find the answer to these questions on page 14 in your NFHS case book and officials manual.

October also means Halloween. Are players allowed to paint their faces, apply tattoos, or wear glitter in their hair or on their face? To haunt for this answer, read pages 16 -19 in the NFHS Volleyball Rule Book. So, now you know about what a player can and can't wear, let's talk about some more hairy things – like HAIR.

Hair is considered FAIR in the game of volleyball. A player's loose hair, whether fake or not, can cause a misjudgment by newer officials. The 9.4.1 rule is simple: HAIR does not count as a contact on the net or with the ball. Many times, confusion can arise as to whether the ball actually touched the player's head or did it just contact hair. How does a good official get it right? Ask yourself: Did the ball deviate in its path or did the player's head move upon contact? Did the ball's rotation stop, change direction, or interrupt its motion? Most likely if this occurred, it was a solid contact and should be counted as a touch. Understanding this will certainly help you explain to the coach that hairy touch wasn't a trick! **HAPPY TRICK OR TREATING IN OCTOBER!**

**Rules Review:** When #50 receives a red and yellow card, leading to her disqualification. Her coach attempts to substitute her with the libero.

**Ruling:** This is not legal. Since the libero cannot be used as a substitute for a disqualified player, an unnecessary delay shall also be called.