

**ATHLETIC DIRECTORS, VOLLEYBALL COACHES &
ASSISTANT COACHES, GYMNASIUM SUPERVISORS**

Having necessary, safe & operational game equipment required for volleyball match play & administration was discussed extensively at recent meetings of the **National Federation of State High School Associations (NFSHSA)** and the **Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL)**. The MSHSL regulates high school volleyball competition in Minnesota. Officials & student-athletes safety are important issues for the CAA and having regulation equipment necessary for match play & administration should be a priority for all school administrators, athletic directors, coaches & officials. Regulation equipment also decreases the potential occurrence for bodily harm and/or injury to officials and/or student-athletes. Host sites are strongly encouraged to have *regulation game equipment* (explained below) for their home matches *beginning this season (Fall 2009)*. Thank you for your cooperation. Questions? Please telephone CAA Athletic Director Mark Courtney at 651-227-1741.

**2009-10 NFSHSA Volleyball Rules Book
(Pages 11 & 12)
Rule 3: GAME EQUIPMENT
Section 1: The Net And Markings**

Art. 2...The net shall be attached to upright standards which are 3 feet (1 meter) outside the court or from its four corners to walls which are at least 6 feet (2 meters) from the sideline.

Art. 3...The net supports include any attachments to the net used for anchoring the net to walls or upright standards, as well as the standards themselves and any attachments used for anchoring the standards to the floor or walls or ceiling. The standards, first referee's platform and floor/wall cables shall be padded as follows:

- a. Standards must be padded to a minimum height of 5 ½ feet with at least 1-inch-thick, resilient, shock-absorbing material (such as polyethylene foam) to encase the uprights and all tensioning devices;
- b. Front and side of first referee's platform must be padded in the same manner as the standards;
- c. Any guy cables or rigid braces must be padded to a minimum height of 5 ½ feet with at least 1/2 -inch-thick resilient, shock-absorbing material.

Art. 4...Net placement shall be such that the net crosses the court midway between and parallel to the end lines. The height of the net shall be 7 feet, 4 ½ inches (2.24 meters) for girls and 7 feet, 11 5/8 inches (2.43 meters) for boys measured at the center of the net. The net measured at the ends shall not exceed these heights by more than ¾ inch (1.92 cm).

Art. 5...Net antennas shall be attached to the net in line with the outside edge of the sideline and extend upward at least 2 ½ feet but no more than 3 ½ feet above the net. The antennas shall be fastened securely to the top and bottom of the net. They shall be of an unbreakable material no more than 3/4 inch in diameter with alternating 4-inch to 6-inch white and orange or red bands.

Art. 6...A safe, stable platform, which elevates the first referee's head to between 2 and 3 feet above the top of the net, are required. It is recommended the top of the platform be at least 18 inches long by 12 inches wide, and that steps up to the platform be provided.