

SIMULTANEOUS CONTACT SCENARIOS – NOW NO FAULT

With the addition of a blocker legally making simultaneous contact with the attack hit in the attackers space, we had to change a few interpretations regarding simultaneous contact. A back row setter who sets the ball in the front zone, higher than the top of the net but keeps it on their side, should not be called for an illegal attack when a blocker simultaneously contacts it with the attack hit. The following interpretations have changed.

- A ball that is set by a back-row setter, in the front zone, completely above the height of the net and is simultaneously contacted by players from both sides in the plane of the net.
 - This would follow the same rule as above where it is simultaneously contacted in the opponent's space. If the ball enters the plane and is simultaneously contacted by the attacker and the blocker, the attack hit has been made and negates the illegal attack on the setter. We play on.
- A ball contacted three times by a team then enters the plane where a player from both sides contacts the ball simultaneously.
 - We used to call this 4 hits since the team that already contacted it three times also contacted it the 4th. With the blocker contacting it at the same time, this now negates the 4-hits and it is play-on.
- A ball that contacts the ceiling then enters the plane where a player from both sides contacts the ball simultaneously.
 - When a ball hits the ceiling and goes over the net, we call the ball out. When a ball contacts the ceiling and enters the plane of the net and is contacted by a blocker, we call this ball out. When the ball enters the plane of the net and is simultaneously contacted by both teams, we used to call this out still since the opposing team contacted it. Now with simultaneous contact, the team now negates the call that the ball crossed the net from the ceiling. We play on.

Pros:

- Fewer whistles
- More continued play
- Spectacular rallies

Cons:

- A change from the current rule