

## Stated Policies of South Plains Volleyball Officials (SPVO)

### Match Assignments

1. All matches (with exception of Junior/Middle School matches in cities covered by their local contingent of officials or nearby neighboring officials) will be assigned by the Chapter's Assigner (AS) and/or his/her assistant assigner.
  - a. Matches are assigned in order of the level of importance as follows:
    - i. Varsity matches and tournaments.
    - ii. Sub-varsity matches and tournaments.
    - iii. Scrimmages
  - b. Chapter members will not trade assignments and/or solicit matches from other officials, coaches, or schools. If approached by any of these entities inform them to call the AS to avoid violation of TASO Solicitation Policy.
    - i. Exception – with the knowledge and approval of the Assigning Secretary. The SPVO Executive Board has the final decision of whether the switch was made without the Assigning Secretary's knowledge.
2. The AS will attempt to provide relatively equal match assignments based on the following criteria:
  - a. Availability of the official for the date, time, and location of the match.
  - b. Meeting all basic eligibility for the level of match assignment.
  - c. Be a member in good standing with TASO and SPVO.
  - d. Blocked dates, and mileage limitations.
  - e. Up-to-date availability in Arbiter.
  - f. Avoidance of the Conflict-of-Interest Policy of TASO.
3. The AS will attempt to put the entire schedule out before the season starts, but at least one month ahead of scheduled match dates.
  - a. After receiving your advanced schedule, the member has one weeks to accept or turn back any match assignments. Failure to do so will result in the loss of any matches not accepted or declined.
  - b. For abusers of this requirement on a consistent basis, the member will be called before the SPVO Executive Board for possible discipline.
4. Whenever it becomes impossible to fulfill an officiating assignment, the official involved shall immediately notify the AS and/or their assistant. The AS or their assistant will find a replacement and notify at least the home coach (preferably both coaches unless the other school is not covered by this chapter, then we will request the home coach to contact the opposing coach) of the change.

5. Officials who develop a habit of showing up late for matches (not in uniform on the floor within 30 minutes of the match start time) may be at risk of having their remaining schedule being suspended and may be subject to further disciplinary action.
6. Failure to show at a scheduled assignment without notice will result in the member's remaining schedule being suspended until the member meets with the SPVO Executive Board to discuss the situation.
7. Showing up and leaving a match assignment before your commitment is completed will result in the official being required to submit a written letter of explanation to an SPVO Executive Board member and all schools involved. Members may be subject to further disciplinary action.
8. Paying dues to TASO and SPVO does not guarantee that an official will be assigned matches.

### **Tournament Assignments**

1. Assignment to tournaments will be based on availability in this order:
  - a. Available for full day assignment.
  - b. Available for partial day assignment.
2. Depending on the official's level of volleyball officiating experience this chapter will try to the best of its ability to make sure every member is assigned at least one tournament.

### **Play-off Assignments**

1. The beginning of October of each volleyball season the AS of SPVO will request in writing/email from all Varsity coaches, for which SPVO provides officials, a list of four or five officials that they would prefer to officiate their match/es, in the order they prefer them, if they make the play-offs.
2. The AS will verify with the Chapter Secretary that all officials requested for play-offs have meet the TASO and SPVO mandated standards to officiate play-offs. Those not qualified will be removed from all consideration. This process should be done in writing/email.
3. The AS will use the verified list and notify each official listed first on a school's list that they have been requested and ask the official if they are willing and able to accept the assignment if given. If there are multiple schools that have ranked them number one the official will be given the opportunity to select the school for which they prefer to officiate. This process will occur for all officials ranked number one by a school. Each official will be told they should be willing to commit to officiate all the play-off matches for the school they have chosen to officiate for but that any assignment received is for only the current match. If their selected school advances in the play-offs the Varsity coach will have the opportunity to request who officiates all subsequent matches.

4. If the officials selected first on a list are unable to fulfill the request or there are more schools needing officials than there are number one officials the AS will proceed down the list from each coach until all play-off assignments are filled.
5. Once the AS has filled all the assignments, the requesting schools will be notified as to the official that will officiate their match. This process will continue as long as a school has play-off matches.

### **Top Crew List – Regional/State Tournament Consideration**

1. To prepare the Top Crew List (TCL) the SPVO Chapter Secretary (CS) will request a ranked list of SPVO officials (depending on the total number of SPVO members) from the current members of the SPVO Board (Board), the last 3 immediate past presidents of SPVO and any other officials recommended and agreed to by the Board. This group will consist of no fewer than 10 members or more than 15 members. The group ranking the officials should base their ranking on their observations of the officials and their experience officiating with the members to verify that they would represent SPVO based upon their on-court officiating skills, knowledge of the rules and game of volleyball, and professionalism.
2. The CS will collate the information received and confirm all members to be considered for inclusion on the TCL have satisfied all TASO/SPVO mandated requirements and will generate a ranked list for consideration by the Board. It will be the sole responsibility of the Board to determine the final TCL in rank order for submission to TASO/UIIL/TAPPS. It will be the sole responsibility of the CS to verify that the final members of the TCL have satisfied all TASO/SPVO mandated requirements and to submit the TCL to TASO/UIIL/TAPPS prior to the deadline set by those organizations. Any necessary changes to the final TCL prior to submission will be reported to the Board. The CS will be prepared to provide a copy of the collated information and copies of each ranking list provided with the ranker redacted to the board for review if requested.
3. Only those included on the TCL will be contacted by the CS to inform them that they have been included on the list and verify with those official's their availability and desire to accept an assignment, should they be selected by UIL or TAPPS for a Regional or State Tournament assignment.
4. Requests/Demands for copies of the TCL by anyone outside the Board, TASO, UIL, or TAPPS will not be allowed.

### **Match Obligations of Officials**

1. It is the R1's (of the higher-level match involved in the assignment) responsibility to contact the R2 (of the higher-level match involved in the assignment) to set up their travel plans (if applicable) and any uniform changes at least 2 days prior to the match. In the event the R1 has not contacted the R2, the R2 shall contact the senior official.

2. An agreement between the driver and the rider should be made prior to travel. With the new UIL Metro plan, both officials will receive the approved travel amount depending on the "Rings" from the center of Lubbock. If officials commonly travel together, they can make a mutual agreement for other arrangements such as, but not limited to, taking turns on the driving chores or other equitable arrangements.
3. Officials shall dress appropriately for games. The official uniform will include an all-white collared short or long-sleeved polo shirt with the TASO logo on the right-side of the chest. The shirt must be an authorized TASO Volleyball shirt supplied by an authorized vendor and be worn tucked in. An all-white, crew neck sweatshirt or all white full zippered jacket with the TASO logo on the right-side chest may be worn over the uniform shirt. The sweatshirt and/or full-zippered jacket must be purchased from an authorized TASO Volleyball vendor. The sweatshirt and jacket are to be worn untucked and the jacket is to be zipped up. Jet-black dress slacks with a plain black belt if the slacks have belt loops. A jet-black skirt (length should be below the knees) may be worn if for religious reasons. Jet black shorts (the length of the shorts shall be from the mid-thigh to the top of the knee) may be worn (ONLY IN NON-AIRCONDITIONED GYMS, solid black athletic shoes (without any colored logo), solid black socks (without visible logo), black whistle with solid black lanyard (a pink whistle and pink lanyard may be worn in the month of October for Breast Cancer Awareness Month but the lanyard and whistle color must be consistent between officials and black is the default). An approved American Flag shall be worn as designated by TASO Volleyball (left sleeve, centered, 2 inches below the shoulder seam). Both officials shall dress the same, no mixing of pants and shorts. This uniform coordination should take place when contact is made regarding travel. In accordance with the TASO dress code, NO SHORTS WILL BE WORN DURING DISTRICT MATCHES OF THE PLAYOFFS.
4. The TASO Volleyball uniform shall be worn only for matches assigned by SPVO or another authorized chapter.
5. Cell Phones are not part of the TASO-Volleyball uniform and shall not be worn. Smart watches may be worn as a timing device only.
6. In accordance with TASO dress code, members found in violation of the official uniform policy will be penalized as follows:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Warning/Executive Board Review
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: One Assignment Pulled
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: Three Assignments Pulled
  - Subsequent violations: All Assignments pulled and member will be considered a member not in good standing - requiring meeting with Executive Board.

### **Training/Meeting Requirements**

1. A member will be required to attend a minimum of five (5) chapter meetings prior to being assigned any District Matches.
2. A member will be required to attend a minimum of seventy percent (70%) of all training/chapter meetings to be considered for assignment to any playoff matches (this includes Line Judges and Fill-ins for requested officials not available).
3. A member will be required to officiate at least 3 HOURS of scrimmages per year.

### **Researching Coaching Complaints of An Official**

When an Executive Board member is notified that a particular official is receiving serious criticism from several coaches or other officials, the situation shall be investigated and a report shall be sent to the President. If appropriate, a representative of the Executive Board may be sent to observe the official and have a conference with him/her. Whatever action necessary to resolve the situation shall be taken by the President with approval of the Executive Board.

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