

***BACK ROW ATTACKS***

***BACK ROW BLOCKS***

***OVER-THE-NET  
VIOLATIONS***

Version 13 16 Jul 14

**An interactive MS Office Power Point presentation best viewed using the latest version of MS Power Point. Older versions of PP may be used but some of the animation may not work.**

**Click the mouse button once to advance to the next item in the presentation at your own pace.**

**Created by Tom Craig  
Technical assistance by Gloria Cox**

# VERSION 13 CHANGES

- **Complete presentation reviewed to ensure compliance with the 2014-2015 NFHS rules**
- **NOTE: In all situations green team is on the left and yellow team is on the right side of the court**
- **Back row blocks and over-the-net situations added**

# AGENDA

- **BACK ROW ATTACKS**
  - The rule in question
  - Introductory information
  - Back row attack situations
- **BACK ROW BLOCKS**
- **OVER THE NET SITUATIONS**

***BACK  
ROW  
ATTACKS***

# *The Rule in Question*

# RULE 9.5.5, PG 35 - 36

## ART 5. A BACK ROW PLAYER SHALL NOT

- a. Participate in a completed block
- b. Attack a ball which is completely above the height of the net while positioned:
  1. On or in front of the attack line or its out of bounds extension;
  2. In the air, having left the floor on or in front of the attack line or its OOB extension;

**NOTE: An illegal BR attack shall not be called until the ball has completely crossed the net or is legally blocked by an opponent ( Rule 9.4.4)**

# **INTRODUCTORY** **INFORMATION**

- 1. Who commits the violations ?**
- 2. When should the violation be called ?**
- 3. What are the most common situations / violations ?**



***WHO  
COMMITTS  
THE  
VIOLATIONS***

# RULE 9.5.5. PG 35

A back row player shall not .....

There are 3 types of back row players that could commit a violation under this rule, they are:  
**Which of these 3 is most likely to commit a back row player violation ?**

1. A BACK ROW SETTER
2. A BACK ROW HITTER
3. THE LIBERO

# TRACKING THE SETTERS

The referee needs to constantly track the setters during the entire match by memorizing the setters numbers.

1. Spot them **BEFORE** each rally
2. Know if they are front row or back row
3. Know each team's offense; 5-1, 6-2
4. Use distinguishing features; hair devices, socks, shoes, ribbons, etc.

***WHEN  
SHOULD THE  
VIOLATION  
BE CALLED***

# RULE 9.5.5. NOTE PG 36

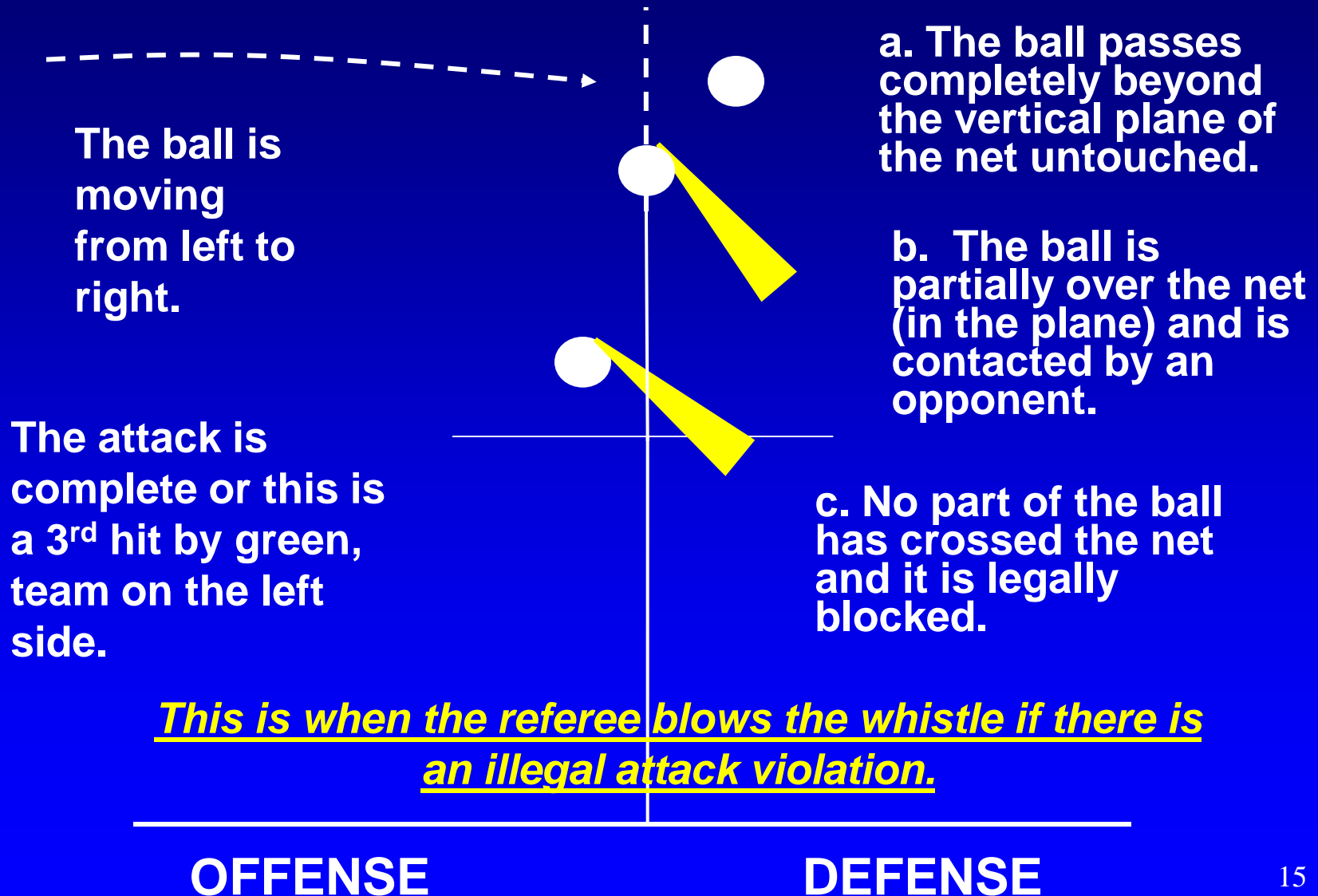
**NOTE: An illegal BR  
attack shall not be  
called until the ball has  
completely crossed  
the net or is legally  
blocked by an  
opponent (Rule 9.4.4)**

# WHEN THE BALL IS CONSIDERED TO HAVE CROSSED THE NET

## RULE 9.4.4. PG 33

- a. It has passed completely beyond the vertical plane of the net.
- b. It is partially over the net (in the plane) and is contacted by an opponent.
- c. No part of the ball has crossed the net and it is legally blocked.

# WHEN IS THE BALL CONSIDERED TO HAVE CROSSED THE NET?



# **WHY THE REFEREE WAITS** **TO CALL AN ILLEGAL** **BACK ROW ATTACK**

It is possible, that the other team may commit a violation **BEFORE** the ball is considered to have crossed the net, such as a net violation or a center line violation. A net violation is probably the most common.

Illustrated in situations 1.a. & 1.b. that follow



# SITUATION - 1. a.

HERE WE GO

An overpass on a 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> hit is going to cross the net

BR setter contacts the ball completely above the plane in an attack

A back row violation is ONLY called when the ball has considered to have crossed the plane of the net, in this case it has not crossed

The blocker misses the ball and touches the net, before the ball completely crosses the net

NET FOUL

In this case the net foul occurred first and is penalized, the back row attack is not penalized

SIGNAL # 6 NET FOUL

On yellow team

OFFENSE

DEFENSE

Illegal Attack by a  
BR player

NOT CALLED YET

# SITUATION - 1. b.

HERE WE GO

NET FOUL

SIGNAL # 6



Any back row player attacks a ball that is above the height of the net when she takes off from on or in front of the attack line

While the ball is headed towards the net, the yellow team blocker contacts the net BEFORE the ball crosses the plane or is legally blocked

*The net foul is penalized, the illegal attack is not*

ATTACK  
LINE

OFFENSE

DEFENSE

**FIRST**

**IN ORDER TO CALL AN**  
**ILLEGAL BACK ROW**  
**ATTACK**

**WE HAVE TO KNOW WHAT A**  
**LEGAL BACK ROW ATTACK**  
**LOOKS LIKE**

# RULE 9.5.3. PG 35

Back-row players, while positioned behind the attack line, **MAY** contact the ball from any position inside or outside the court, above or below the top of the net.

(A quote straight out of the rule book)

**A LEGAL BACK ROW ATTACK**

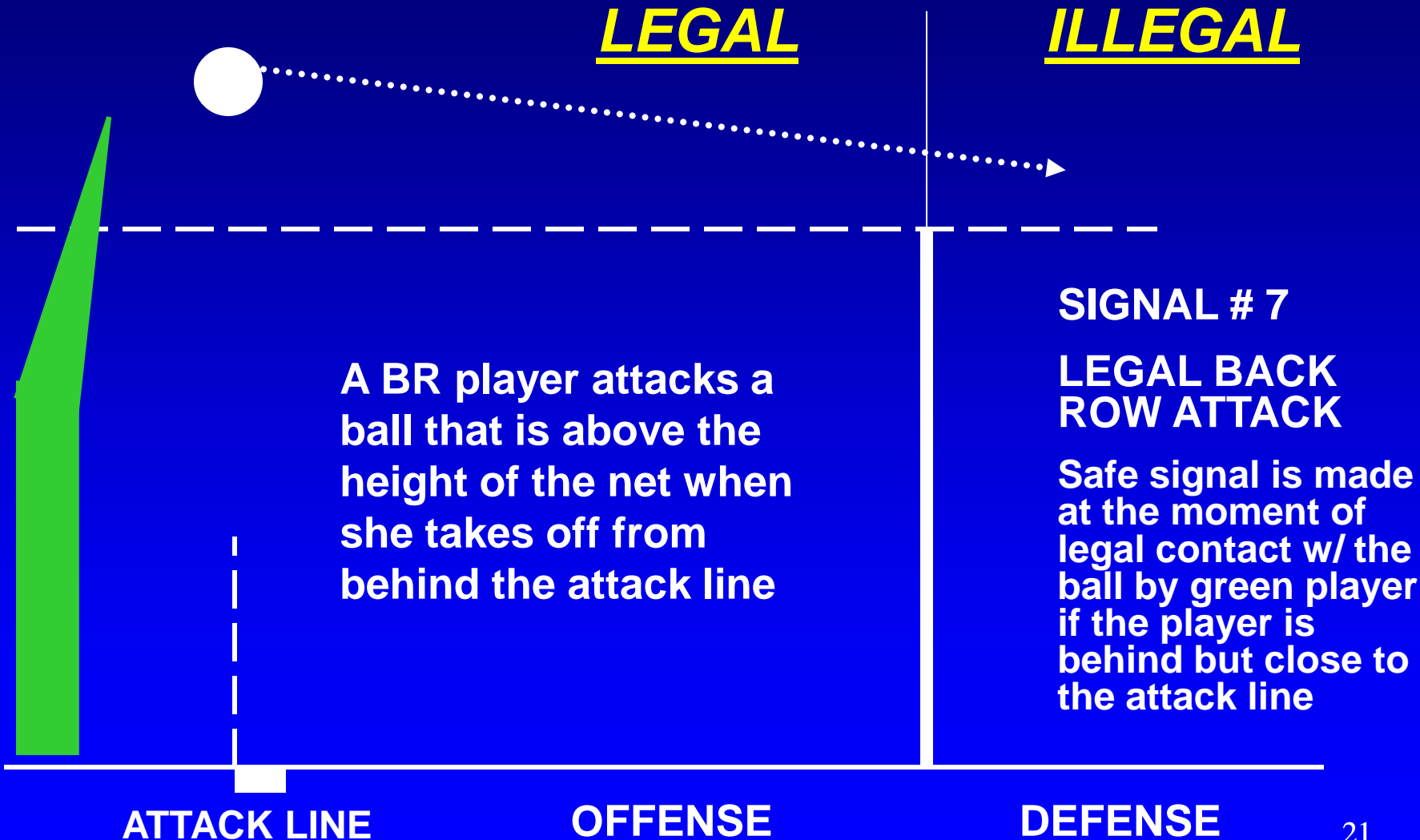
# SITUATION - 2

## LEGAL BACK ROW ATTACK

HERE  
WE GO

LEGAL

ILLEGAL



# RULE 9.5.4. PG 35

A back-row player (on or in front of the attack line), **CANNOT** contact the ball completely above the height of the net and complete an attack.

(A quote straight out of the rule book)

**AN ILLEGAL BACK ROW ATTACK**

# SITUATION - 3

## ILLEGAL BACK ROW ATTACK

HERE  
WE  
GO

**ILLEGAL**

A BR player attacks a ball that is completely above the height of the net when she takes off from on or in front of the 10 ft line and the ball crosses the plane of the net untouched

**SIGNAL # 8**

**ILLEGAL ATTACK**

The violation is called (whistled) when the ball is considered to have cross the net

**ATTACK  
LINE**

**OFFENSE**

**DEFENSE**

# RULE 9.5.5. PG 35-36

## ART 5. A BACK ROW PLAYER SHALL NOT

a. Participate in a completed block

*b. Attack a ball which is completely above the height of the net while positioned:*

- 1. On or in front of the attack line or its out of bounds extension;*
- 2. In the air, having left the floor on or in front of the attack line or its OOB extension;*

## SITUATIONS 4 & 5



HERE  
WE GO

# SITUATION - 4

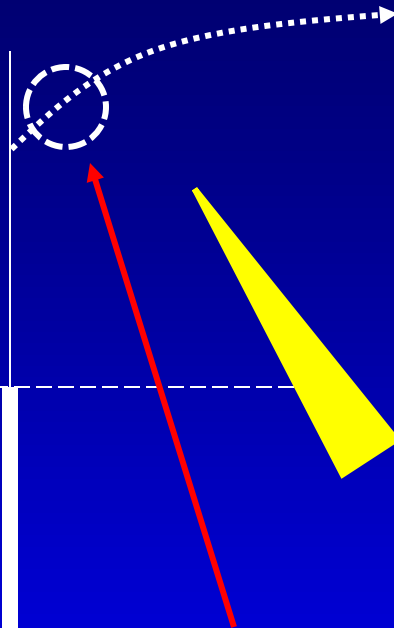
An overpass on a 1<sup>st</sup>  
or 2<sup>nd</sup> hit is going to  
cross the net

A BR setter contacts  
the ball completely  
above the plane in  
an attack or a set  
attempt that crosses  
the plane untouched

SIGNAL # 8

ILLEGAL ATTACK

OFFENSE



A blocker  
misses the ball  
and the ball  
crosses the  
plane of the  
net untouched  
by the blocker

ILLEGAL

The foul is called  
when the ball  
COMPLETELY  
crosses the plane of  
the net untouched

DEFENSE

HERE WE GO

# SITUATION - 5

Foul is called when the ball is considered to have crossed the net (legally block)

An overpass on a 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> hit is going to cross the net and is ATTACKED across the net by a BR setter; contact is above the top of the net

**ILLEGAL  
ATTACK**

By green

Ball is legally blocked

**SIGNAL # 8**

**ILLEGAL ATTACK**

**On green's side of the net**

OFFENSE

DEFENSE

# RULE 9.5.6. PG 36

## ART 6. A LIBERO SHALL NOT:

- a. Complete an attack from anywhere if, at the moment of contact, the ball is entirely above the height of the net;
- b. Set the ball using overhand finger action while on or in front of the attack line extended, resulting in a completed attack above the height of the net;

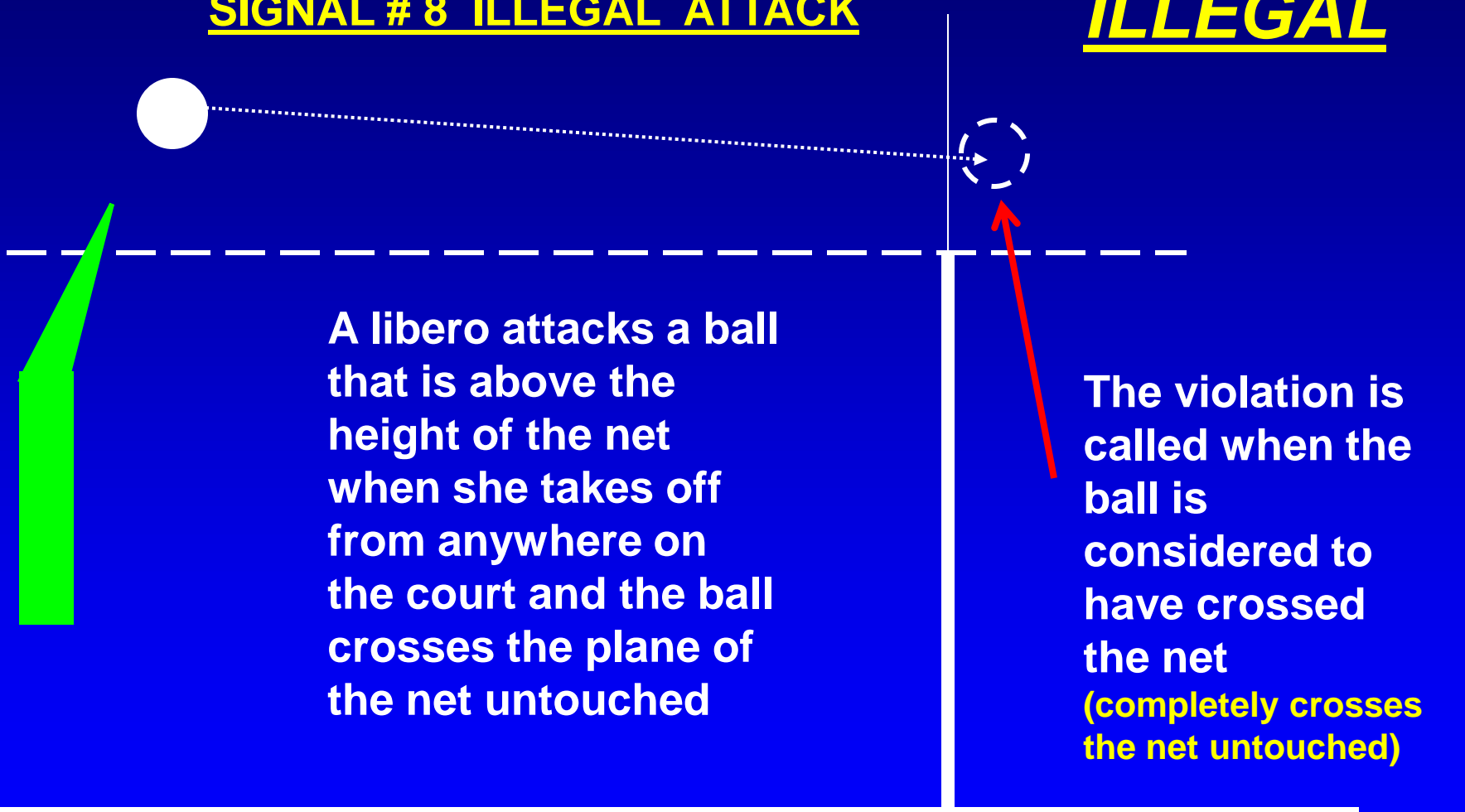
## SITUATION 6

HERE WE GO

# SITUATION - 6

## SIGNAL # 8 ILLEGAL ATTACK

**ILLEGAL**



A libero attacks a ball that is above the height of the net when she takes off from anywhere on the court and the ball crosses the plane of the net untouched

The violation is called when the ball is considered to have crossed the net  
**(completely crosses the net untouched)**

OFFENSE

DEFENSE

# SITUATION - 6

**Things that will help you to call an illegal attack on a Libero:**

- **How tall is the Libero ?**
- **Is she hitting with her arm fully extended ?**
- **What is the trajectory of the ball ?**
- **Is this the first time the Libero has made an attack or is it the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> time ?**

# RULE 9.5.6. PG 36

ART 6. A LIBERO SHALL NOT:

- a. Complete an attack from anywhere if, at the moment of contact, the ball is entirely above the height of the net;*

SITUATIONS 7 & 8

HERE  
WE GO

# SITUATION - 7

ILLEGAL ATTACK

by the libero



LEGAL BLOCK



LEGAL # 8

LEGAL  
ATTACK

A libero attacks a ball that is above the height of the net when she takes off from anywhere on the court and the ball is legally blocked

The violation is called when the ball is considered to have crossed the net, in this case, legally blocked

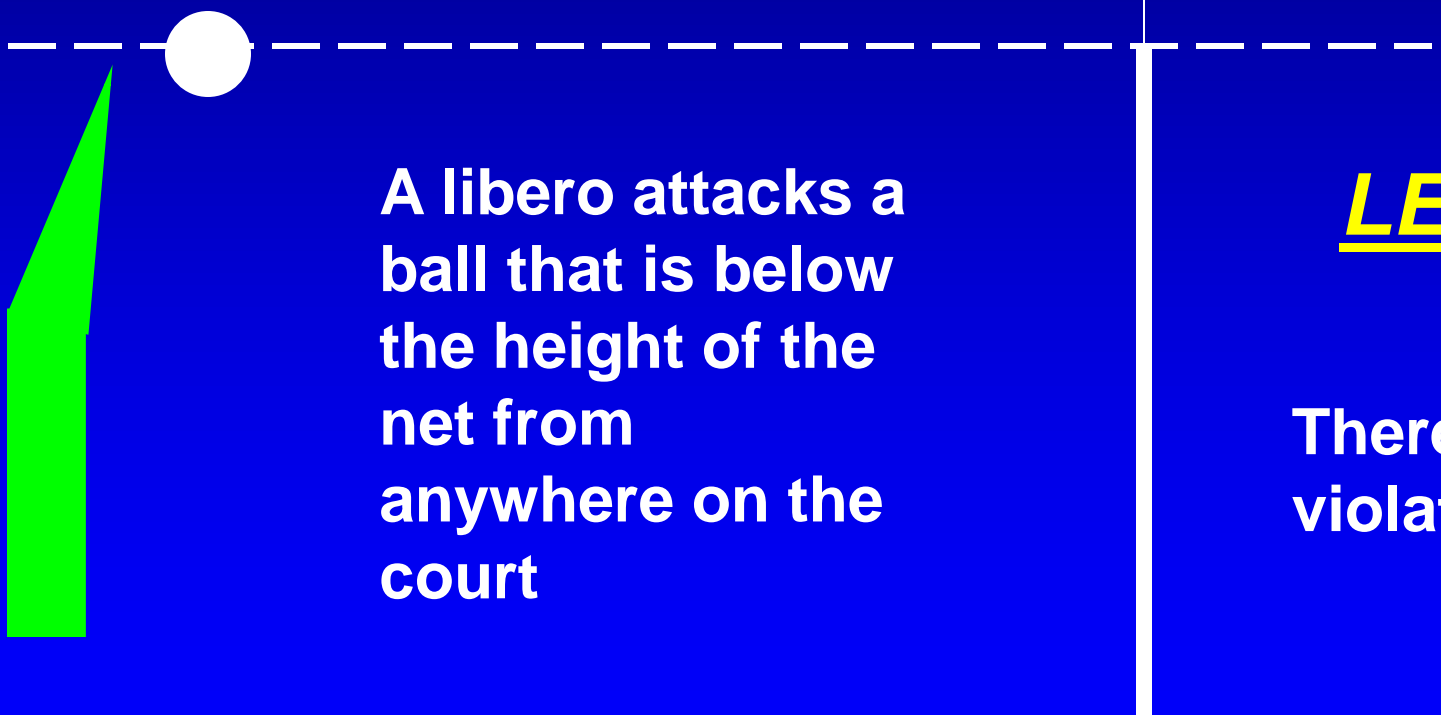
OFFENSE

DEFENSE

# SITUATION - 8

HERE  
WE GO

## A LEGAL LIBERO ATTACK



A libero attacks a ball that is below the height of the net from anywhere on the court

The diagram shows a volleyball court divided into offense and defense halves by a vertical net. A dashed horizontal line represents the net height. A white ball is positioned on the dashed line. A green arrow points upwards from the offense side towards the ball. The text 'A libero attacks a ball that is below the height of the net from anywhere on the court' is written in the offense half.

LEGAL

There is no violation here

OFFENSE

DEFENSE



# RULE 9.5.6. PG 36

**ART 6. A LIBERO SHALL NOT:**

- b. Set the ball using overhand finger action while on or in front of the attack line extended, resulting in a completed attack above the height of the net.**

## SITUATION 9

HERE  
WE GO

# SITUATION - 9

The **libero** sets the ball to a FR hitter using overhand finger action while she is on or in front of the attack line

Green team FR hitter spikes the ball (completes an attack) without realizing the set from the libero is overhand with finger action

**ILLEGAL  
ATTACK**

The violation is called when the ball crosses the net untouched or is legally blocked

**SIGNAL # 8**

LIBERO

FRONT  
ROW  
HITTER

ATTACK LINE

# RULE 9.5.6. PG 36

ART 6. A LIBERO SHALL NOT:

**c. Block or attempt to block**

## DEFINITION OF A BLOCK

The action of a player(s) close to the net that deflects the ball coming from the opponent by reaching higher than the top of the net at the moment of contact.

## SITUATION 10

HERE  
WE GO

# SITUATION - 10

SIGNAL #9

ILLEGAL  
BLOCK

The libero reaches above the top of the net to block a ball coming from the opponent

The violation is called when the libero blocks or attempts to block the ball coming from the opponent

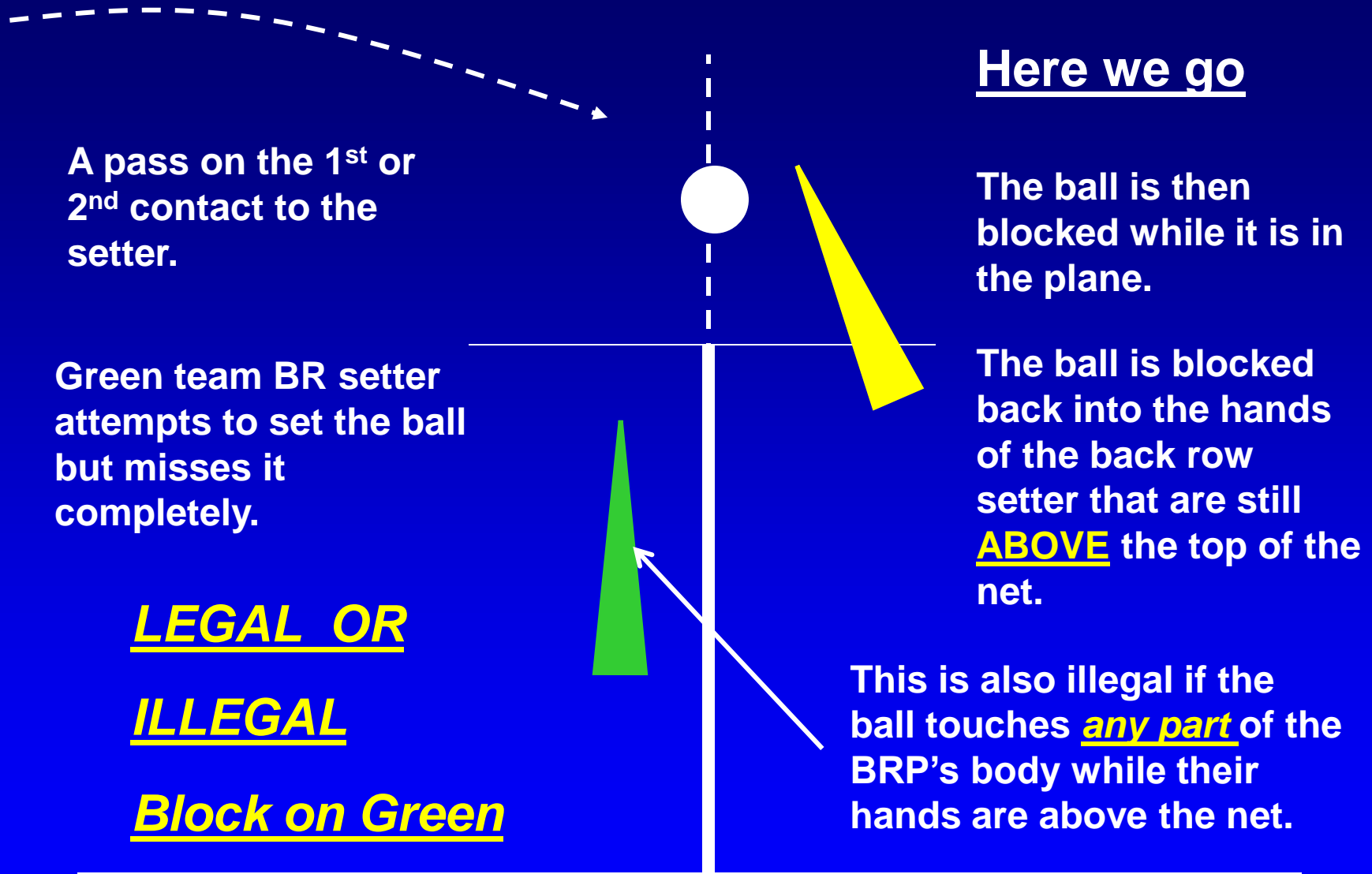
All of the requirements of a block must be met, it does not matter if the libero does or does not touch the ball

ATTACK LINE

LIBERO

# ***BACK ROW BLOCKS***

# BACK ROW BLOCKS - 1



OFFENSE

DEFENSE

# BACK ROW BLOCKS - 2

A pass on the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> contact to the setter.

Green team BR setter sets the ball and the ball enters the vertical plane of the net, the setters contact with the ball IS BELOW the top of the net.

**LEGAL  
OR ILLEGAL  
FIRST CONTACT**

*Here we go*

The ball is then blocked (in the plane) back into the hands of the BR setter that are below the top of the net.

Can the green setter touch the ball next ?

NO, that would be 2 hits.

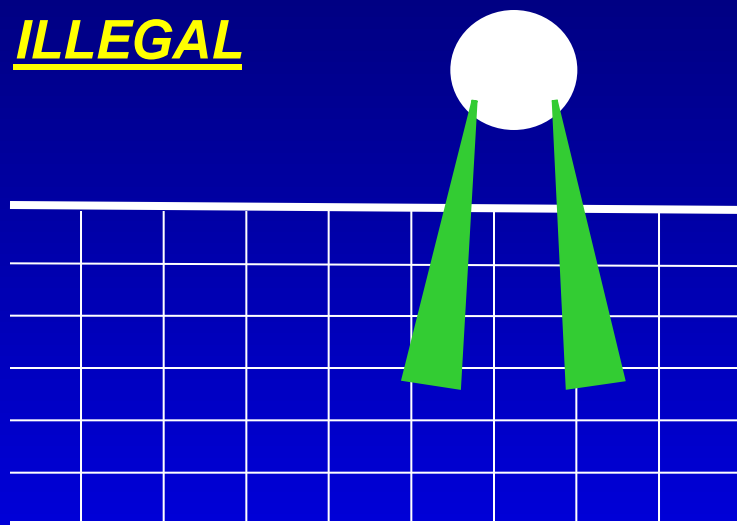
**OFFENSE**

**DEFENSE**

# BACK ROW BLOCKS - 3

LEGAL OR

ILLEGAL

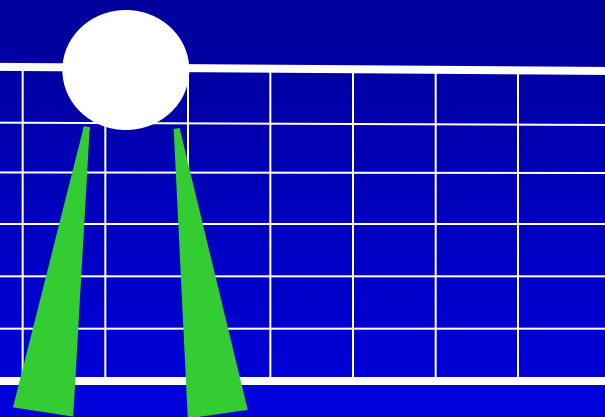


Back Row Block

The ball is blocked back into the back row setter's hands that are above the top of the net.

LEGAL

OR ILLEGAL



First Contact

The ball is blocked back into the back row setter's hands that are below the top of the net.



# BACK ROW BLOCKS - 4

A pass on any contact, enters the plane of the net, a BR setter, contacts the ball when it is above the top of the net.

LEGAL OR ILLEGAL

**SIGNAL # 9**

Illegal block by green

**OFFENSE**



The ball is blocked in the plane.

Here we go

There is simultaneous contact.

The foul is called when the ball is considered to have crossed the net (**legally blocked**). At the **simultaneous contact**.

**DEFENSE**

***OVER***

***THE***

***NET***

# NET PLAY 9.6.3

(Page 36)

**A player shall not contact a ball which is completely on the opponent's side of the net unless the contact is a legal block.**

# OVER THE NET - 1

A 1<sup>st</sup> contact is a return of serve pass that goes near the net to the setter (FR or BR) who is clearly waiting for the ball.

The ball is clearly completely on the offensive side of the net.

The ball is blocked over the opponents court before contact by the setter.

Here we go

LEGAL OR

ILLEGAL

SIGNAL # 5

OVER THE NET

OFFENSE

DEFENSE

# OVER THE NET - 2

The setter (FR or BR) sets the ball (2<sup>nd</sup> contact) straight up. In this situation it does matter where the setter contacts the ball because

The ball is clearly COMPLETELY on the offensive (green) side of the net.

The ball is blocked over the opponents court AFTER the contact by the setter.

Here we go

LEGAL OR

ILLEGAL

SIGNAL # 5

OVER THE NET

OFFENSE

DEFENSE

There has been one contact by the red team before this play. Red # 13 is trying to set the ball.

The ball **HAS NOT** entered the vertical plane of the net and is blocked by # 25 before or after # 13 touches the ball.



The setter, # 13, could be a front or back row player and is trying to set the ball to a team mate. The red team has the right to 2 more contacts as long as the ball is still on their side of the net.

**LEGAL OR**

**ILLEGAL**

# OVER THE NET - 3 a.

The front row setter clearly **ATTACKS** the ball towards the opponent's court on any hit.

The ball is clearly completely on the offensive side of the net.

It is **ALWAYS** legal to block over the opponents court after an **ATTACK**.

The ball is blocked over the opponent's court after the attack hit by the setter.

**Here we go**

**LEGAL**

**OR ILLEGAL**

**OFFENSE**

**DEFENSE**

# OVER THE NET - 3 b.

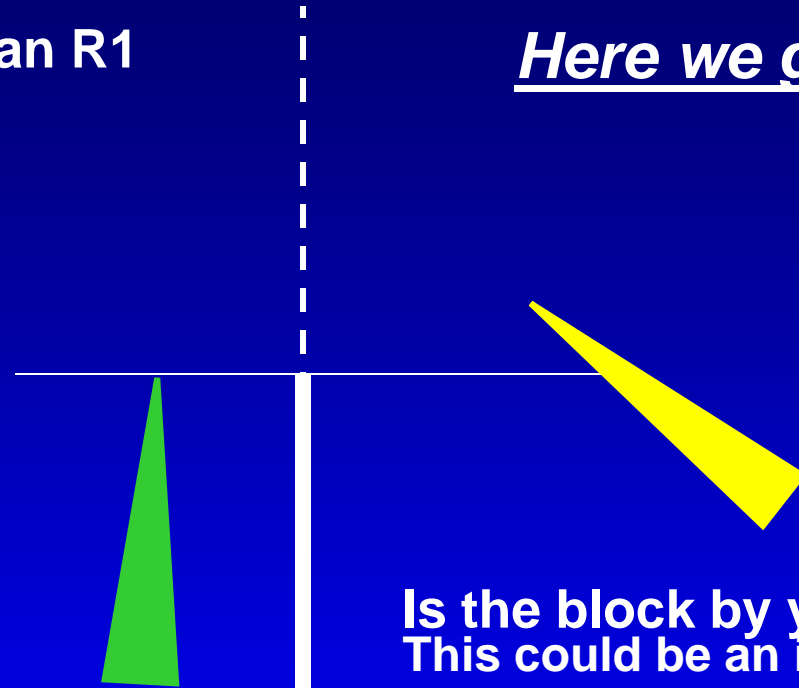
Same situation  
BUT, the  
distances are  
much closer.

This is an R1  
call.

Here we go

This is a VERY  
difficult play to call,  
the distances are  
VERY small and it  
happens very fast.

The most important  
point here is, "Was it  
an attack hit by the  
setter ? "



Is the block by yellow  
This could be an illegal  
over-the-net contact if the  
set was not an attack hit  
and the ball was still on  
greenside when touched  
by the blocker.

LEGAL  
OR ILLEGAL

OFFENSE

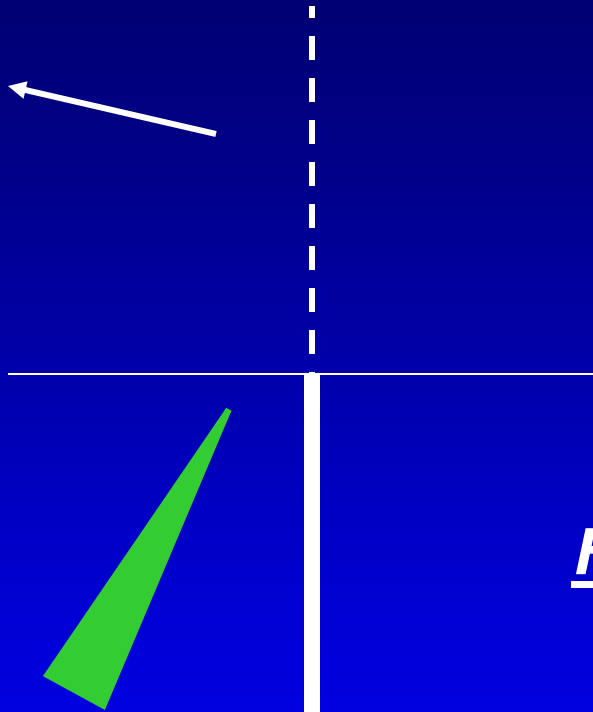
DEFENSE



# OVER THE NET - 4

An overpass on the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> contact is going to cross the net, setter (BR or FR) tries to bring the ball back to her side using her fist.

The ball is still CLEARLY in the vertical plane of the net.



The setter or any player tries to bring the ball back to their side of the court while the ball is still in the plane of the net.

Here we go

LEGAL OR ILLEGAL

PLAY ON

OFFENSE

DEFENSE

# OVER THE NET - 5

An overpass, on a 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> contact, crosses the net and the green setter (FR or BR) tries to bring the ball back to her side.

The ball is CLEARLY on the opponents side.

SIGNAL # 5  
OVER THE NET

OFFENSE

The contact with the ball is after it has completely crossed the plane of the net and the ball is now clearly over the opponents court.

Here we go

LEGAL OR  
ILLEGAL

DEFENSE

# **SUMMARY**

- **Judge attacking violations by the position of the ball and blow the whistle when the attack is complete.**
- **Judge blocking violations by the position of the player and blow the whistle on contact with the ball.**

# QUESTIONS







