

CVOA Members,

The CVOA Executive Committee received a few inquiries on what an example would look like on a reasonable accommodation for a student athlete with a disability.

Here is a recent one for a student athlete that may be **D/deaf** or Hard of hearing that uses an interpreter to translate the heard word into sign language.

During the course of a game, the interpreter has the same privileges as an assistant coach per Rule 12-2-6, since they are acting in a capacity as a coach translating information between coaches and the student athlete during the course of the volleyball match. An interpreter's role is similar to other assistant coaches that take on roles such as: setting coach, blockers/hitters, defense, game management of subs/timeouts and so forth.

Rule 12-2-6 allows assistant coaches the following privileges:

- Stand within the coaching zone during dead-ball situations. Between rallies, only one assistant coach at a time may stand and approach the court, all other assistant coaches must stay at the bench seated. Assistant coaches may take turns on who goes up to the line between rallies, it does not need to be the same assistant coach each time.
- Ask the second referee, during a dead-ball situation, to review the accuracy of the score, verify the number of time-outs and/or number of substitutions used by their team, request the serving order of their team, or verify the proper server for the opponent
- Great a replaced player
- Attend to an injured player
- Confer with players during time-outs
- Spontaneously react to an outstanding play by a player(s) of their own team

Then we add the CHSAA mandate to allow students with disabilities reasonable accommodation to participate in all CHSAA sponsored programs including volleyball, we now allow the following modification for a interpreter:

- The interpreter may when needed move up and down the bench area to be close to the head coach, other assistant coaches or student athlete to translate information between the parties.
- This also may mean at times we will have three coaches near the sideline during dead ball situations such as between rallies where we will have a head coach, assistant coach and interpreter. The interpreter may need to walk up to the head coach or other assistant coach to hear them to translate information to the student athlete on the court, but then the interpreter must return to the bench to sit during live ball play.

Please feel free to contact the CVOA Executive Committee or your area director if you have any questions.

Cordially,

Bruce Bird

President

CVOA (Colorado Volleyball Officials Association)