



LIBERO: RULE 19

by
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President FIVB Rules of the Game
Commission

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A NEW AGE- A NEW
CONCEPT... TAKING THE
LIBERO INTO THE NEXT
DECADE

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Designation by the coach

- One Libero designated by the coach* before the start of the match, will be the Starting Libero. The Libero on court is the Acting Libero. If there is another Libero, he/she will act as the second Libero.
 - Only one Libero may be on court at any time.
- * The coach only records the Liberos in the score sheet – it is not necessary to put on line-up sheet or to specify who starts: whichever turns up is the starting Libero!

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Libero Playing Actions

- **The Libero is allowed to replace any player* in a back row position**
- ***Any player includes the other Libero, should there be one!**

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What they are NOT! When they can happen

- **Replacements involving the Libero are not counted as regular* substitutions.**
- They are unlimited, but there must be a **completed rally** between two replacements involving a Libero (unless there is a forced rotation to position 4** caused by a penalty).
- * or any other type of substitution! **Forced rotation in itself does not give a reason for not fulfilling the completed rally requirement.

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Who can replace and why?

- The Acting Libero can only be replaced by the other Libero or by the regular replacement player for that position.
- The coach has the right to replace the Acting Libero with the other Libero for any reason after a completed rally at any time during the match.

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Improper replacement and Possible Delays

- A replacement made after the whistle for service but before the service hit should not be rejected, however the game captain must be informed after the end of the rally that this is not a permitted procedure and that future instances will be subject to delay sanctions.
- Subsequent late replacements shall result in the play being interrupted immediately and the imposition of a delay sanction. **The team to serve next will be determined by the result of the delay sanction.**

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Recording the Replacement

- The Libero and the replacing player may only enter or leave the court through the “Libero Replacement Zone”.
- All replacements involving Liberos must be recorded in the Libero Control sheet (or electronic score sheet, if one is used)

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Illegal Replacement Examples

- An illegal Libero replacement can involve (amongst others):
- No completed rally between Libero replacements
- The Libero being replaced by a player other than the regular replacement player
- The consequences of an illegal Libero replacement are the same as those for a rotational fault.

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Team with two Liberos

- **When a team uses two Liberos but one becomes unable to play, the team has the right to play with only one Libero and the second Libero becomes the Acting Libero – no re-designation will be allowed, however, unless a Libero becomes unable to play for the match and the remaining Libero is declared unable to continue.**

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Team with one Libero

- Where only one Libero is registered on the score sheet, in case the Libero is declared unable to play, the coach may re-designate as **Libero for the remainder of the match** any other player (replacement player excepted) not on the court at the moment of the re-designation. The coach (or game captain, if no coach is present) must contact the second referee with the request for “re-designation”.

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Declared Unable to play

- **Should the re-designated Libero be declared unable to play, further re-designations are possible but the original Libero(s) may not return to the match.**

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Recording

- **In the case of a re-designated Libero, the number of the player re-designated as Libero must be recorded on the score sheet remarks section and on the Libero Control sheet (or electronic score sheet, if one is used).**
- **The re-designated player will be allocated a jacket or bib to show that a new Libero is in play.**

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Expulsion and Disqualification

- **If the Libero is expelled or disqualified he/ she may be replaced directly by the team's other Libero.**
- **Should the team have only one Libero, then it must play without a Libero for the duration of the sanction.**