

## OVERVIEW

The aim of this section is to provide referees with a standardised method by which to deal with the situation of a forfeit. The forfeit by its nature is a difficult situation as not only can it potentially finish a match but it can easily result in a protestable situation if the process is not followed exactly. Therefore, officials should pay attention that the processes outlined below are followed exactly, and that all pertinent information is recorded and communicated appropriately to anyone affected by the protocol.

## 1. RELEVANT RULES

- The rules governing forfeits / defaults are primarily covered in two sections with the FIVB Beach Volleyball Rulebook: Rules 7.4 and 8.1

### **Rule 7.4 Defaults and Incomplete Team:**

Rule 7.4.1 If a team refuses to play after being summoned to do so, it is declared in default and forfeits the match with the result 0-2 for the match and 0-21, 0-21 for the sets

Rule 7.4.2 A team that does not appear on the playing court on time is declared in default with the same result as in Rule 7.4.1 above

Rule 7.4.3 A team declared incomplete for the set or for the match loses the set or the match (Rule 9.1). The opposing team is given the points, or the points and the sets needed to win the set or the match. The incomplete team keeps its points and sets.

*“For FIVB World Competitions whenever Pool Play format is implemented, Rule 7.4 above may be subject to modifications as stated in the Specific Competition Regulations issued by the FIVB in due time, establishing the modality to be followed for treating the default and incomplete team cases”*

### **Rule 8.1 Coin Toss:**

Before the official warm up, the first referee conducts the coin toss in the presence of the team captains, where appropriate. The winner of the coin toss chooses...

## 2. POSSIBLE SCENARIOS

- **Based on the above rules are there three basic scenarios that are possible:**
- Scenario 1: A team formally forfeits the match prior to the commencement of the match
- Scenario 2: A team forfeits the match because it was not present at the correct time in order to commence the match
- Scenario 3: A team forfeits the match after the match has commenced.

## 3. SCENARIO 1: A TEAM FORMALLY FORFEITS THE MATCH PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE MATCH

- This situation is controlled by the relevant FIVB Delegate(s) and has little impact on a referee.
- A referee must complete the scoresheet (if requested by the FIVB Delegate) in accordance with the FIVB Scoring Instructions
- Referees must ensure that they are aware of any changes to the match schedule as a result of the forfeit.

## 4. SCENARIO 2: A TEAM FORFEITS THE MATCH BECAUSE IT WAS NOT PRESENT AT THE CORRECT TIME IN ORDER TO COMMENCE A MATCH

### **Essential Steps (proceed to the next step if not resolved)**

1. Verify that the teams are present
2. Attempt to find the teams
3. Inform the relevant FIVB Delegate(s)
4. Continue the Match Protocol
5. Official warm up time after coin toss
6. Final forfeit decision

**Overview**

- The referees in this situation must act quickly as time is very important
- The referees through their actions must try not to advantage one team over another
- The referee(s) should at no time make comment to the player(s) on the likely outcome / probability of a forfeit occurring.
- Referees should not assume that a team will not be present based on a previous forfeit by the team

**Specific Notes for each step****Step 1**

- As soon as a referee is present before the match they must verify that both teams (both players) are present
- The referee must be present before the commencement of the official warm up time.

**Step 2**

- If one or both are not present they should take all actions appropriate to immediately verify the team's whereabouts. This includes use of Court Managers, Walkie talkies and the 2<sup>nd</sup> referee leaving the court area, to make sure that the information is appropriately conveyed to the relevant FIVB Delegate(s) and Tournament staff.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> referee should stay at the court

**Step 3**

- If the situation is not immediately resolvable by the team coming to the court the relevant FIVB Delegate must be informed and requested to come to the court
- Once the Supervisor is present at the court the final decision on all areas such as commencing the Match Protocol and forfeits is theirs to make. The referees should continue (or proceed with) the normal Match Protocol for the tournament
- The relevant FIVB Delegate(s) will try to ascertain the reason for the player(s) absence and advise the referees actions accordingly
- Ideally the relevant FIVB Delegate(s) should be present before the commencement of the Official Match Protocol. If not the referee must take control of the situation but must note that only the FIVB Supervisor can make a final decision whether to forfeit a team.

**Step 4**

- If the relevant FIVB Delegate(s) is not present they should automatically commence / continue the Official Match Protocol (unless otherwise requested by the FIVB Delegate)
- The referees once the Official Match Protocol has commenced take all steps to continue this protocol without alteration (i.e.: the protocol is maintained)

**Step 5**

- The referee should at the correct time under the Official Match Schedule request (to the relevant FIVB Delegate(s)) that they should commence the official warm up period, starting with the coin toss (unless otherwise notified).
- Special Protocol 1: If one team has no players present at the coin toss their opponents automatically win the coin toss and can chose to serve or receive etc. Only one player is required to conduct a coin toss.
- The refereeing procedures involved in this Special Protocol are in order:
  1. Whistle and call the teams for the coin-toss in front of the scorers table
  2. Upon confirmation that only 1 team is present inform this team that they have automatically won the right to first choice (serve, receive or side of the court)
  3. Obtain from the team present their first choice (e.g.: side of the court)
  4. Inform them that the other team will complete their choices at the completion of the official warm up time
  5. Confirm with the scorers the decision of the team and obtain the Pre match signature of the Captain, together with any information available being recorded (e.g.: service order). Note at this stage the Scorer will not be able to complete the scoresheet with finality to commence the match as either a) the sides of the court will not be known or b) The team who is serving and receiving will not be known

6. Whistle and indicate the start of the official warm up time (e.g.: 5 minutes)
  7. Not interrupt the official warm up time of the teams to gather more information (if the other team arrives)
  8. Immediately at the end of the official warm up time, whistle, then signal the teams to go to their designated chairs
  9. Only the team present at the coin toss should proceed to their designated chairs
  10. The team not present at the coin toss should come to the scorers table and convey their decisions (serve, reception , side of the court) that are not already decided (point 4 above)
  11. The team should sign the Pre match Captains section of the Scoresheet and indicate service order.
  12. The scorer should complete the scoresheet and confirm to the match officials that all information required has been received
  13. The team present at the coin toss should be informed of the decision of the other team
  14. The match officials should commence the match as soon as possible
- Special Protocol 2: If neither team is present (i.e. there are no players) the coin toss is not conducted but the time should be noted in the Scoresheet's Remarks Section and the referee commences the timing as per the Official Match Protocol (announcing that it has commenced)
  - Many of the refereeing procedures for Special Protocol 1 apply to Special Protocol 2 but are adapted because of no team being present at the coin toss
  - If a team arrives during the Official Match Protocol , the Protocol is continued without alteration and the late team receives no additional warm up time (unless otherwise notified)
  - Both of the above Special Protocols should be done as quickly as possible and should not extend the time of the Official Match Protocol.

**Step 6**

- The Official Warm up time is completed by the 1<sup>st</sup> Referee blowing their whistle and indicating that the match should be ready to commence.
- If at this time the player(s) are still not present the referee should notify the relevant FIVB Delegate(s) of this fact (i.e.: That based on the referees timing the Official Match Protocol has finished and that the match is now scheduled to commence).
- The 1<sup>st</sup> Referee does not need to go to the Referees Chair at the end of the Official Match Protocol.
- The relevant FIVB Delegate(s) is responsible for conveying any decision regarding the forfeit to the player(s) (if present), match officials, spectators, media etc.
- Scoring of the match result is done in accordance with Section 7: Scoring

**5. SCENARIO 3: A TEAM FORFEITS THE MATCH AFTER THE MATCH HAS COMMENCED**

- This situation will usually occur due to an injury (but not exclusively)
- The relevant FIVB Delegate(s) should be called to the court as soon as possible.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> referee must initially verbally verify that the team wishes to default thus forfeiting the match. This may be after the part of a Medical Injury Protocol.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> referee must complete the following:
  1. Obtain the signature on the scoresheet of the team wishing to forfeit (this confirms their desire to forfeit)
  2. Confirm with the relevant FIVB Delegate(s) the forfeit
  3. Notify the opposing team of the forfeit
  4. Oversee the completion of the scoresheet and sign it to verify its contents
- Scoring of the match result is done in accordance with Section 7: Scoring

## 6. SPECIFIC NOTES

- The designation “relevant FIVB Delegate(s)” has been used in this protocol to apply to Technical Supervisor and Refereeing Delegates. Their specific roles are defined within the 2008 World Tour Handbook
- Referees should be familiar with the FIVB Official Match Protocol

## 7. SCORING

- The relevant FIVB Delegate(s) is in Scenario 1 and 2 responsible for verifying the Official Match Result and may record as appropriate comments in the Remarks Section
- At the completion of the match, the 1<sup>st</sup> referee should ensure that the Remarks section of the scoresheet has been completed with all the required information as indicated by this protocol and shown by the example in the Scoresheet Instructions.
- If the Referee Delegate (RD) is not present at the court at the completion of the match, the 1<sup>st</sup> referee must obtain the respective signature prior to the scoresheet being delivered to the Competition Office, although avoiding any delays for BVIS purposes.