

## **Libero Defined**

*(section 19.3.2.1 of FIVB 2009 - 2012)*

The Libero is restricted to perform as a back row player and is not allowed to complete an attack from anywhere if at the moment of contact the ball is entirely above the top of the net. A teammate may not complete an attack hit, when, at the moment of attack hit, the ball is entirely above the top of the net, if the ball is coming from an overhead finger pass by a Libero in the front zone.

The ball may be freely attacked if the Libero makes the same action from behind the front zone. The Libero is allowed to replace any player in the back row position. Replacements involving the Libero are not counted as regular substitutions. They are unlimited, but there must be a rally between two Libero replacements. The Libero can only be replaced by the player they replace. Maximum of 12 substitutions per game.

The Libero may not block or attempt to block.

The Libero can not serve.

The Libero must wear a different color/design top in contrast to other members of the team.

\*\*\*\*\*

The libero is strictly a back-row player and does not play in the front row. Liberos were strictly a defensive position that was created to sustain rallies by improved digging and better passing.

Liberos can't occupy a front-row position of the rotation at any point. If the libero didn't substitute off and began to play on the front row, it would be a rotational fault.

Liberos do not need to officially substitute into or out of the match. They instead switch with their "sub" by running onto or off the court during a dead ball. Libero "subs" are not counted against your total substitution limit. This is one of the major benefits of using a libero.

The libero is used in the rotation of middle blockers on a team. When one middle rotates to the back row, the other middle will enter the match for the libero and be in the front row.

The libero remains in the game at all times and is the only player who is not limited by the regular rules of rotation.

Back row player (libero included): MAY NOT jump and attack the ball from anywhere on the court when the ball is entirely above the net at the time of contact.

The libero may be used as an exceptional substitution for an injured player if no other substitutes exist; he or she must change into a regular uniform and the team continues with no libero. If the libero is disqualified, he or she must be replaced by the player whom he or she replaced; play continues with no libero.