Indoor Volleyball Trivia

Use this key to check answers and read the explanations.

1. In standard FIVB indoor volleyball, how many players from one team start a set on the court?
   - A. Six
   - B. Four
   - C. Five
   - D. Seven

   Correct answer: A. Six

   An indoor lineup has six on-court players for each side. Different volleyball formats can have different lineup sizes.

2. How many sets does an indoor team need to win an FIVB match?
   - A. Four
   - B. Two
   - C. Three
   - D. Five

   Correct answer: C. Three

   The first team to win three sets wins the match. A match can last three, four, or five sets.

3. A ball lands on the sideline without touching anything else. How is that contact judged in FIVB indoor volleyball?
   - A. The ball is out.
   - B. The ball is in.
   - C. The rally is replayed.
   - D. The point depends on which team served.

   Correct answer: B. The ball is in.

   The boundary lines are part of the court. Touching a sideline qualifies as landing in.

4. Which visual clue is used to distinguish a libero from the other players on their own team?
   - A. A net-side wristband
   - B. A mandatory long sleeve on one arm
   - C. A different color of shoes
   - D. A contrasting uniform color

   Correct answer: D. A contrasting uniform color

   The libero’s uniform has a dominant color that contrasts with the rest of that team’s uniforms.

5. Which Olympic Games were the first to include indoor volleyball medal competitions?

A. Mexico City 1968
B. Tokyo 1964
C. Rome 1960
D. Munich 1972

Correct answer: B. Tokyo 1964
Both the men’s and women’s indoor events began on the Olympic program at Tokyo 1964.

6. An indoor team touches the ball on a legal block. The ball stays playable on its side. How many team hits can it still use to send the ball back?

A. Three
B. Two
C. One
D. None

Correct answer: A. Three
An indoor block contact does not use one of the side’s three team hits. The team may still use all three.

7. A serve clips the net, crosses between the antennas, and lands in the other court without any other fault. What happens under FIVB rules?

A. The rally stays live after the ball lands.
B. The serve must be replayed.
C. The receiving team wins because a serve cannot touch the net.
D. The serve is legal and scores a point.

Correct answer: D. The serve is legal and scores a point.
A ball can touch the net while crossing through the legal space. It lands in and ends the rally in this scenario.

8. A team sends the ball toward the other court, and it contacts an antenna on the way across. What is the ruling?

A. The team may replay the crossing.
B. The ball is in if it lands on the sideline.
C. The ball is out.
D. Play continues if the ball touched the net first.

Correct answer: C. The ball is out.
Touching an antenna makes the ball out, regardless of where it would otherwise land.

9. A back-row player jumps from clearly behind the attack line, completes an otherwise legal hit above the net, and lands inside the front zone. Is the landing a fault?

A. No. The rule checks the takeoff position.
B. Yes. The player must also land behind the line.
C. Yes. A back-row player can never hit the ball above the net.
D. No, but only if the opposing team first touches the ball.

Correct answer: A. No. The rule checks the takeoff position.
For a back-row attack from behind the attack line, the takeoff position matters. The player may land in the front zone after the hit.

10. Which country’s women won their first Olympic indoor volleyball gold at the Tokyo 2020 Games?

A. China
B. Brazil
C. Japan
D. United States

Correct answer: D. United States
The United States defeated Brazil in the final. This was the first indoor Olympic gold for the U.S. women’s national team.

11. The rectangular playing court is 18 meters long and 9 meters wide. The center line divides the length in half. What is the area of one team’s half?

A. 54 square meters
B. 162 square meters
C. 81 square meters
D. 36 square meters

Correct answer: C. 81 square meters
Each half is 9 meters by 9 meters, so its area is 81 square meters. The free zone outside the lines is separate.

12. In the fifth set, Team A takes an 8–6 lead. What happens next if no interruption changes the scoring?

A. The teams change ends and start again at 0–0.
B. The teams change ends and continue from 8–6. A team still needs at least 15 points and a two-point lead to win.
C. The teams stay on the same ends because a change happens only after they are tied at 8–8.
D. Team A immediately wins because it has eight points and a two-point lead.

Correct answer: B. The teams change ends and continue from 8–6. A team still needs at least 15 points and a two-point lead to win.
The teams change ends when the leader reaches eight. The score carries over, and the deciding set still uses the 15-point target with a two-point winning margin.

13. Which city hosted the first men’s Volleyball World Championship in 1949?

A. Tokyo
B. Paris
C. Moscow
D. Prague

Correct answer: D. Prague
FIVB history lists Prague as host of the 1949 men’s championship. Moscow hosted the first women’s championship in 1952.

14. A team has used five regular substitutions in one FIVB indoor set. Under the 2025–2028 rulebook, how many more regular substitutions can it use in that set?

A. One
B. None
C. Two
D. Three

Correct answer: A. One
The standard limit is six regular substitutions per team in a set. Five used leaves one, apart from separately governed exceptions.

15. On a team's first hit after receiving a serve, the ball touches a player's arms and then shoulder in the same action without being caught. What does the FIVB first-hit rule allow?

A. The reception is legal only if both contacts happen exactly together.
B. They automatically count as two separate team hits.
C. The contacts can count as one legal hit.
D. The reception has to be replayed.

Correct answer: C. The contacts can count as one legal hit.
On a team’s first hit, successive contacts with parts of the body can be legal when they occur in one action. This differs from two separate attempts.