

NWSF PLAYERS' EQUIPMENT POLICY

PLAYERS EQUIPMENT

The purpose of this document is to inform all players of the regulations re what players can wear onto the field of play.

The overarching rules in respect of any playing equipment or any items worn are set out in Law 4 of FIFA's Laws of the Game –

“A player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous to himself/herself or another player (including any kind of jewellery)”

USE OF EQUIPMENT

Headwear

Unless otherwise exempted or allowed by a referee, goal keepers are the only players who are permitted to wear caps as they may constitute a danger to opponents.

The International Football Association has declared that players are allowed to wear the Hijab in football matches. The Hijab must be the same tonal colour as the main colour of the player's shirt.

Head bands and Wrist bands

The wearing of cloth head and wrist sweat bands are permitted.

Hair ties

Material and elastic hair ties only are permissible.

Undershirts

Long sleeved undershirts must be the same tonal colour as the player's shirt – ie if a player's shirt contains more than 1 colour, then the tonal colour of the undershirts must be the dominant colour of the player's shirt.

Undershorts

Undershorts must be the same tonal colour as the main colour of the player's shorts. Players are permitted to wear full length undershorts provided they are the same tonal colour as the main colour of the shorts.

Glasses

Players are permitted to wear sports goggles, sports glasses or sports sunglasses as long as, in the opinion of the referee, they pose no danger to the player or other players. The Optometrists Association of Australia has stated that children involved in sport requiring assisted vision, should wear protective eyewear such as sports goggles or sports glasses with soft or flexible frames fitted with a plastic or polycarbonate lens.

Jewellery

All items of jewellery (necklaces, rings, bracelets, earrings, leather bands, rubber bands, etc) are strictly forbidden and must be removed. Using tape to cover jewellery is not acceptable. Referees are also prohibited from wearing jewellery (except for a watch or similar device for timing the match).

Other

Modern protective equipment such as headgear, facemasks and knee and arm protectors made of soft, lightweight padded material are not considered dangerous and are therefore permitted.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMPLIANCE

The individual player, team coach and the club have the responsibility for player equipment and should be fully aware of the requirements.

Except for the use of the Hijab, the players are to be inspected by the referees before the match and substitutes before they enter the field of play.

If a player is discovered to be wearing unauthorized clothing or jewellery during play, the referee must –

1. Inform the player that the item must be removed.
2. Order the player to leave the field of play at the next stoppage if he or she is unable or unwilling to comply
3. Caution the player if he or she willfully refuses to comply, or, having been told to remove the item, is discovered to be wearing the item again.

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