

Washington State High School Modifications to FIFA Laws:

Appendix - Law 4: The Players' Equipment

Required Equipment

The required player equipment includes a jersey, shorts, socks, suitable shoes and shinguards which shall provide adequate and reasonable protection, be professionally manufactured, age- and size-appropriate, not altered to decrease protection, worn under the socks, and are worn with the bottom edge no higher than 2 inches above the ankle. Shinguards must meet the National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment (NOCSAE) specifications. The NOCSAE seal and the appropriate height range of the player shall appear on the shinguard. The NOCSAE seal and height range shall be permanently marked on the front of the shinguard. Equipment shall not be modified from its original manufactured state and shall be worn in the manner the manufacturer intended it to be worn. It is also recommended that male players wear a supporter and protective cup. Requirements for uniforms:

Jerseys and socks of opposing teams shall be of contrasting colors and, in the event of a similarity of color; the home team shall be responsible for making the necessary change.

The home team shall wear solid white jerseys and solid white socks, and the visiting team shall wear dark jerseys and socks. Prior to and during the game, jerseys shall be tucked into the shorts, unless manufactured to be worn outside.

Both socks shall be the same color, with a single dominant color, but not necessarily the color of the jersey. Tape applied to socks cannot change the basic color of the socks.

A manufacturer's logo/trademark appearing on both sides of the socks is legal.

If visible apparel is worn under the jersey and/or shorts, it shall be of a similar length, all alike and of a solid color.

One manufacturer's logo/trademark or reference is permitted on the outside of each item which may not exceed 2¼ square inches and may not exceed 2¼ inches in any dimensions.

An American flag, not to exceed 2 by 3 inches, and either a commemorative or memorial patch, not to exceed 4 square inches and with written state association approval, may be worn on the jersey provided neither the flag nor the patch interferes with the visibility of the number.

When an illegally uniformed team is unable to correct the situation or cannot verify state association approval of the uniform, the game shall be played. The referee must, however, notify the state association following the game.

Except for the uniform of the goalkeeper, jerseys, shorts and socks of teammates shall be of similar color, design and pattern.

All jerseys shall be numbered on the back with a different Arabic number at least six inches in height and on the front (jerseys or shorts) with the same number, which shall be at least 4 inches in height. Numbers shall be of contrasting color to the jersey (or shorts) and clearly visible.

Only those names, patches, emblems, logos or insignias referencing the school are permitted on the team uniform, with the exception of a manufacturer's logo, American flag or an approved commemorative patch. The player's name may also appear on the team uniform.

The jersey of the goalkeeper shall be distinctly different from that of any teammate or opponent, except the other goalkeeper. The shorts or pants and socks of the goalkeeper are not required to be the same color as his/her teammates, but must comply with rule the requirements for a manufacturer's logo.

Shoes with soles containing metal (aluminum, magnesium, titanium, etc.), leather, rubber, nylon, or plastic cleats, studs, or bars, whether molded as part of the sole or detachable, are allowed as long as the referee does not consider them dangerous or they have been altered in any way creating sharp edges thus rendering them unsafe.

The WIAA recommends that team captains wear an upper arm band of a contrasting color.

Substitutes shall wear distinguishing pinnies when warming up outside of the team area.

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Other Equipment

Illegal equipment shall not be worn by any player. This applies to any equipment which, in the opinion of the referee, is dangerous or confusing. Types of equipment which are illegal include, but are not limited to, the following:

- projecting metal or other hard plates, or projections on clothing or person;
- head, arm, thigh or hip pads containing sole leather, fiber, metal or any unyielding materials;
- hard and unyielding items (guards, casts, braces, etc.) on the hand, wrist, forearm, elbow, upper arm or shoulder unless covered, and must be padded with a closed-cell, slow recovery foam padding no less than ½-inch thick;
- shinguards which have exposed sharp edges or have been altered;
- spectacle guards;
- knee braces which are altered from the manufacturer's original design/production. Knee braces that are unaltered are legal and do not require any additional padding;
- ankle braces which are altered from the manufacturer's original design/production. Non-metal ankle braces that are unaltered are legal and may be worn outside a sock. Ankle braces of metal or unyielding material that are unaltered are legal if covered by a sock;
- helmets, hats, caps or visors.

Exceptions:

- The goalkeeper may wear a head protector made of closed-cell, slow-recovery rubber or other similar material that stays soft in its final form. This head protector shall not have a bill, or other protruding design. It shall not cover the face, other than the forehead, and shall be secured by a chin strap.
- The goalkeeper may wear a soft-billed baseball style hat or soft-billed visor. If worn in conjunction with a head protector, it is to be worn outside and may not be attached to the head protector.
- By state association adoption, players may wear soft and yielding caps during inclement weather. Caps must be alike in color.

NOTE: The wearing of illegal uniforms or equipment is prohibited even though the coaches of both teams approve it.

Hair control devices may be worn if made of soft material and not for adornment.

Sweatbands may be worn on the head or wrist if made of soft material.

Jewelry shall not be worn except for religious or medical medals.

- A religious medal must be taped and worn under the uniform.
- A medical alert must be taped and may be visible.

All permissible artificial limbs must be padded with a closed-cell, slow recovery foam padding no less than a ½-inch thick.

NOTE: Each state association may, in keeping with applicable laws, authorize exceptions to playing rules to provide reasonable accommodations to individual participants with disabilities and/or special needs, as well as those individuals with unique and extenuating circumstances. The accommodations should not fundamentally alter the sport, allow an otherwise illegal piece of equipment, create risk to the athlete, others or place opponents at a disadvantage.

Hearing aids worn in or behind the ears are legal provided that the device does not create a threat of injury.

A tooth and mouth protector (intraoral), which shall include an occlusal (protecting and separating the bite surfaces) and labial (protecting the teeth and supporting structures) portion and covering the posterior teeth with adequate thickness, is legal. It is recommended that the protector be properly fitted and:

- Constructed from a model made from the individual's teeth.
- Constructed and fitted to the individual by impressing the teeth into the tooth and mouth protector itself.
- The tooth and mouth protector should be of a readily visible color, other than white or clear.

A protective face mask may be worn by a player with a facial injury. The mask may be made of hard material, but must be worn molded to the face with no protrusions. A medical release for the injured player signed by an appropriate health-care professional shall be available at the game site.