



MEMO

To: State Referee Staff
From: Ben Wilson

cc: Member Federation CEOs
State Referee Committees
NRTC Members
Date: 2 June 2014

Re: National Policy on the Wearing of Jewellery

Policy Guidelines for Match Officials

This Policy replaces the version issued in July 2005.

In compliance with the FIFA Laws of the Game (Law 4 – The Players' Equipment) "*a player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous to himself or another player (including any kind of jewellery).*"

In addition the Interpretation of the Laws of the Game and Guidelines for Referees - Law 4 states "*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).

In summary all players must remove all items of jewellery prior to entering the Field of Play. This includes bands, leather necklaces and any other loose wristbands. Sweatbands may be worn.

Medical Alert bracelets and Necklaces

These may be worn as long as they are secured to the wrist or body. The medical advice must not be covered.

Head Covers

(Effective from competitions commencing after 1 June 2014 - refer FIFA Circular 1419)

Where head covers are worn, they must

- be black or of the same main colour as the jersey (provided that the players of the same team wear the same colour)
- be in keeping with the professional appearance of the player's equipment
- not be attached to the jersey
- not pose any danger to the player wearing it or any other player (e.g. opening/closing mechanism around neck)
- not have any part(s) extending out from the surface (protruding elements)

Specific Information

Beaded hair	If a player is wearing hair beads the hair must be tied in a bun or covered by a hair net. Loose beaded hair should not be allowed.
Bracelets	All bracelets (including metal, rope, fabric, leather, etc.) must be removed. Medical alert bracelets may be worn. The bracelet must be covered by tape (with the exception of the medical information).
Body piercing	Piercing not visible to the referee is of no concern. Should the piercing become visible the referee will ensure the item is removed.
Earrings	No earrings are acceptable. The practice of taping earrings is not acceptable.
Facial ring	Any kind of jewellery on the face or around the eyes must be removed.
GPS units or heart rate monitors	This equipment is not permitted to be worn by players.
Metal clips / bobby pins	These are deemed to be dangerous items and must be removed. Elastic/rubber hair bands are permitted.
Necklaces	All necklaces must be removed. Medical alert necklaces may be worn provided they are taped securely to the chest. The medical information must not be covered by tape.
Rings	No rings may be worn. The taping of wedding rings is not permitted.
Tongue piercing	Rings/studs through the tongue are discouraged for the players' own safety. Should the referee detect a tongue piercing, the referee will ensure it is removed.
Watches	Players (but not match officials) must remove all watches.

Referees

Within the spirit of these guidelines, referees are expected to conform to the standards set for players (with the exception of wearing watches and GPS units / heart rate monitors).

Any player not complying with this Policy should not be allowed to play.

[ENDS]