

What You Need To Know

Rule 4 – Player Equipment and Uniform



Equipment

- A guard, cast or brace made of hard unyielding leather, plaster, pliable plastic, metal or any other hard substance, even though padded, is NOT permitted on the finger, hand, wrist or forearm.
- Supports/braces are permitted on other parts of the body if in the judgment of the First Referee they are not considered dangerous
- The First Referee shall require a support/brace to be covered or padded if a sharp edge or point is exposed
- Artificial limbs are permitted when they are:
 - No more dangerous than the corresponding human limb
 - Or, adequately padded
 - A letter of permission from UIL must be made available to the referees
- **NOTE:** Prior to the match, head coaches shall verify that all their players are legal and wearing legal uniforms and equipment – This is usually done at the PreMatch Conference.

Equipment

- Any equipment that in the judgment of the First Referee increases a player's advantage or presents a safety concern is prohibited
- Hair devices made of soft material and undecorated bobby pins not to exceed 2 inches in length may be worn to control the hair
- Hair adornment made of soft material and no more than 2 inches wide may be worn



Equipment

- Jewelry shall not be worn by players during warm-ups and/or during the match
 - Medical-alert medals are not considered jewelry
 - Must be taped to the body
 - May be visible
 - Religious medals are not considered jewelry and must be worn under the uniform and taped to the body
- Players shall not wear body paint or glitter on their hair, face, uniform or body

Penalties For Equipment Violations

- Discovery of jewelry on a player(s) during warm-up shall result in a referee informing the coach of the violation.
 - The coach shall correct the violation in a timely manner
 - Failure to comply results in the player being charged with unsporting conduct
- When a player wearing illegal equipment
 - Is discovered in the game or attempts to enter the game, unnecessary delay shall be assessed the team
 - If the team has a time-out remaining, the player may remain in the game provided the illegal equipment is removed or made legal during the time-out
 - If the team has no time-outs remaining, loss of rally/point shall be awarded the opponent and the player removed unless the illegal equipment is removed or made legal immediately
 - If the player is attempting to enter the game, the player shall not enter the game until the illegal equipment is removed or made legal
 - For subsequent violations by the same team **during the match**, a loss of rally/point shall be awarded the opponent. The player(s) shall be removed unless the illegal equipment is removed or made legal immediately

Uniforms

- All players on a team shall wear
 - Like colored uniforms
 - Exception - Libero
 - Shall consist of
 - Shirts
 - Shorts, pants, or skirts
 - Free of hard and unyielding items
 - Uniforms may include compression shorts
 - Unadorned
 - Single color similar to the predominant color of the uniform bottom
 - Uniforms shall be worn as intended by the manufacturer
 - Bare midriff tops are not allowed
 - The uniform top must hang below or be tucked into the waistband of the uniform bottom when the player is standing upright
 - Removal of any part of the uniform in the playing area is unsporting conduct



Uniforms - Libero

- Uniform shirt must contrast team playing shirt
 - Must wear a uniform top that is immediately recognized from all angles as being in clear contrast to and distinct from the other members of the team
 - Primary color of the libero's uniform top must be different from any color that appears on more than 25 percent of the body of teammate's uniform tops
 - The sleeves and collar should be ignored
- Must have a legal number
- Style and trim may differ from teammates' uniform
- Shorts must be like-colored to teammates

Uniforms - Number

- Each player shall be identified in a non-duplicated number
- The number shall be
 - Permanent and clearly visible
 - Not more than two digits
 - Plain Arabic numeral of solid color that is in sharp contrast to the uniform
 - The trim may fulfill the contrasting requirement
 - Located on the upper front and back of the uniform top
 - At least 4 inches tall in front; at least 6 inches tall in back
 - Placed no lower than 5 inches from shoulder seam or center of neckline ribbing, placket, or seam
 - If number is worn on the uniform bottom, it shall be the same number as on the uniform top

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Uniform

- Appropriate playing shoes shall be worn
- If undergarments are worn under the uniform top in such a manner that they are exposed, they must be
 - A single color
 - Similar to the predominant color of the uniform top
 - Players shall not wear undergarments or tights which extend below the uniform bottom

Uniform - Penalties

- When a player wearing an illegal uniform
 - Attempts to enter the game – Penalty is assessed and the player shall not enter the game until the illegal uniform is replaced or made legal
 - Is discovered in the game – Penalty is assessed
 - If a team has a time-out remaining, the player may remain in the game provided the illegal uniform is replaced or made legal during the time-out
 - If the team has no time-outs remaining, a loss of rally/point shall be awarded the opponent and the player shall be removed unless the illegal uniform is replaced or made legal immediately

Penalty – Unnecessary delay shall be assessed the team.

- For subsequent violations by the same team **during the match**, a loss of rally/point shall be awarded to the opponent **even if the team has time-outs remaining**
 - The player(s) shall be removed unless the illegal uniform is replaced or made legal immediately
- When a team cannot begin the match with six players wearing legal uniforms
 - A loss of rally/point shall be awarded to the opponent **at the beginning of the match only**
 - Do not penalize the team at the beginning of each set
 - The Chapter and UIL shall be notified