



## NWSFRA Technical Direction Jewellery

V2.0 May 2021

### Laws of the Game

Law 4 states:

*“All items of jewellery (necklaces, rings, bracelets, earrings, leather bands, rubber bands, etc.) are forbidden and must be removed. Using tape to cover jewellery is not permitted*

*The players must be inspected before the start of the match and substitutes before they enter the field of play. If a player is wearing or using unauthorised/dangerous equipment or jewellery the referee must order the player to:*

- *remove the item*
- *leave the field of play at the next stoppage if the player is unable or unwilling to comply*

*A player who refuses to comply or wears the item again must be cautioned.”*

NWSFRA referees are to adhere to the following procedure:

#### Before the game

- 1) Inspect players and ask players to remove any visible items of jewellery (see below for a definitive list of items and actions to be taken)
- 2) If a player has tape that you can clearly see is covering jewellery, eg stud earrings or a ring, these must be removed before they can play
- 3) If a player has tape over an area where it is not obviously covering jewellery, you are NOT to ask them to remove the tape and prove there is no jewellery
- 4) Players that have sweatbands or headbands may be asked to remove the band as a precautionary check.

#### Start the game

If during the game you become aware of a player wearing an item of jewellery, at the next stoppage get them to leave the field of play and remove the item. Once they have left the field, restart the game. The game is not to be delayed in any other way whilst a player corrects their equipment. At the next stoppage, allow them to re-enter the game AFTER you have inspected them and the item has been removed.

If during the remainder of the game, you become aware that the same player is still wearing jewellery, then show that player a yellow card for dissent. For players on the field, this will result in a Temporary Dismissal.

#### Referees

In keeping within the spirit of these guidelines, referees are required to conform to the identical standards set for the players, with the exception of the need to wear watches. Referees need to be diligent in carrying out these instructions and be aware of players trying to circumvent the policy.

### Further Instructions for Match Officials

#### Earrings:

No form of earrings or studs is acceptable. The practice of taping earrings/studs or piercings is not permitted .

#### Facial Rings/Piercings:

Any kind of jewellery around the eyes and the face must be removed. The practice of taping facial rings or piercings is not permitted .

**Necklaces:**

All necklaces including metal, rope, fabric, or such other material must be removed. Necklaces of a religious nature are not allowed. Medical alert necklaces only may be worn but they must be taped securely to the chest.

**Bracelets:**

All bracelets including metal, rope, fabric, or other such material must be removed. Medical alert bracelets only may be worn but must be taped securely to the wrist.

**Body Piercing:**

Any piercing not visible to the referee is not of concern. Tongue piercings are also not of concern.

**Rings:**

All rings must be removed; this includes flat wedding rings. Taping or otherwise covering rings will not be permitted under any circumstances.

**Watches & fitness bands**

Players must remove all visible watches and fitness bands. GPS trackers worn under clothing are permitted.

**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 will not be permitted.

**Hair Clips/ Hair Bands:**

Any hard rigid hair anchor eg metal or plastic hair clips, headbands, etc is not permitted. However, bobby pins are allowed. The use of fabric or elastic type hair restraints will be permitted providing they do not constitute a danger to either the player or an opponent. Elastic hair restraints are permitted if worn holding back hair - not worn around the wrist.

**Glasses**

Refer to the 'Additional Instructions for Referees' section of the Law Book for National Policy. This instruction is fairly open ended and allows for the referee to make a final decision. Basically the risk is assessed on the frames of the spectacles and not the lenses themselves. Glasses consisting of metal frames should be considered unsuitable and not permitted to be worn. Glasses made of flexible plastic or other similar material such as 'sports glasses' would be acceptable.

**Casts/Splints:**

Casts, splints, joint or limb supports will not be permitted regardless of the material they are manufactured from. Padding, bandaging or otherwise disguising of casts etc. is also not permitted. Players will be permitted to wear elastic type muscle supports providing they are close fitting and in the opinion of the referee do not constitute a danger. Referees should be vigilant when inspecting such equipment that players are not concealing such apparatus under medical bandaging etc.

If any referee needs to clarify any part of this notice, please email the [Technical Committee](#).