Law 4
The Players’ Equipment

Topics

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The basic compulsory equipment of a player comprises the following separate items:

- A jersey or shirt.
- Shorts – if thermal under shorts are worn, they are of the same main colour as the shorts.
- Stockings.
- Shinguards.
- Footwear.

Players cannot wear a one piece-playing suit in place of shirts and shorts.

Colours:

- Each goalkeeper wears colours that distinguish him from the other players, the referee and the assistant referees.
- The players and goalkeepers must wear clothing which distinguishes them from the referee and assistant referees (Q&A).
- If the colour of the shirts of the two goalkeepers is the same and neither has another shirt to change into, the referee allows play to begin (Q&A).
A player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous to himself or another player.

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

New technology has made sports spectacles much safer, both for the players themselves and for other players. Referees should show tolerance when authorising their use. This applies particularly to younger players.
Law 4 – Decision 1

Players must not reveal undershirts, which contain slogans or advertising.

A player removing his jersey to reveal slogans or advertising will be sanctioned by the competition organiser.

Disciplinary sanctions:
- A yellow card is not shown on the field of play.
- The referee will inform the competition organiser.

Jerseys must have sleeves.

Jewellery

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

All items of jewellery are potentially dangerous. The term “dangerous” can sometimes be ambiguous and controversial, therefore in order to be uniform and consistent any kind of jewellery has to be forbidden.
Players are not allowed to use tape to cover jewellery. Taping jewellery is not adequate protection.

Rings, earrings, leather or rubber bands are not necessary to play and the only thing they can bring about is injury.

In order to avoid “last minute” problems, teams should inform their players in advance.

Please avoid injuries.

- Necklaces, rings, bracelets, earrings, leather or rubber bands etc. are not allowed.
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Disciplinary sanctions:

- Instruct the player to remove the dangerous item.
- Caution if a player, after having been told to remove jewellery, wears it again.

Restart of Play:

- If play is stopped to caution - Indirect free kick to opponents where play was stopped
- If the ball is out of play, restart according to Law

Referees are also reminded that they may not wear any kind of jewellery.
Law 12 - Decision 6

A player who removes his jersey when celebrating a goal must be cautioned for unsporting behaviour.

The removal of the jersey after a goal has been scored is unnecessary and players must avoid such excessive displays of celebration.

The removal of a jersey is defined as removing the jersey over the head or covering the head with the jersey.
Removing a jersey

Yellow card for both players
Removing a jersey