

Referees --

I've had a couple of questions regarding the use of compression pads or "sleeves." There are commonly worn by players on either the forearm/elbow area or the knee/thigh area. We specifically covered their use at the OVR pre-season clinics, and there was a slide with pictures of each style. For some reason, there is still some confusion. (Google "compression pads" and look at the pictures/images to clarify the player equipment we're talking about.)

Again, to clarify the USAV ruling for compression pads/sleeves:

#1 - they are LEGAL

#2 - they are NOT part of the uniform; they are considered "equipment" like kneepads

#3 - they do NOT have to match if more than one player on a team wears them (in the same way that kneepads do NOT need to match)

#4 - they do NOT have to be covered (with a long-sleeved shirt or any other covering)

If there are additional questions, please let me know.

Brian Hemelgarn
OVR Referees' Chair