

Referees -

Just a few USAV rule clarifications about player equipment items:

1 - Head coverings. If worn for religious purposes, these are LEGAL. There are various styles/types depending on the religion. Headbands and sweatbands are also LEGAL, as well as bandanas WORN AS SWEATBANDS, provided they aren't covering the entire head. A bandana worn as a head covering for medical purposes, as sometimes seen with individuals undergoing chemotherapy, is LEGAL.

2 - Casts. Hard, unyielding casts made from metal, plaster or rigid plastic are not permitted, even if covered or padded. No exceptions. These items can cause further injury to the player since they are unyielding (if the player were to fall and try to catch herself, for example), particularly on the hand/wrist. They can also pose a risk for injury to teammates or the opponents. Casts and wrappings that are pliable and yielding are LEGAL.

3 - Compression sleeves. This was covered in our clinics and in a previous memo. They are LEGAL, no restrictions with regard to color. They do not need to be covered.

4 - Jewelry. For juniors' competition, all jewelry is ILLEGAL. This includes, bracelets (string or otherwise), watches, ear rings, visible body piercings, etc. Barrettes, bobby pins, clips and other hair-control devices are LEGAL. Plastic spacers or monofilament/plastic string is LEGAL as a replacement for a piercing. Plastic ear gauges or discs are ILLEGAL.

If you have encountered any other player equipment items that aren't covered above, please drop me a note if you have questions about their legality.

Thanks,

Brian Hemelgarn
OVR Referees' Chair