

Referees:

A few more uniforms items to cover with everyone:

1 - When a team wears spandex uniform bottoms, it IS permissible if one or more players on that team wears SHORTS instead of spandex. We encounter this under various circumstances each year, so I want to be sure that we are consistent in allowing this. The shorts MUST be the SAME COLOR as the spandex, and they should be a similar "cut." EX: if the team wears spandex, long basketball-style shorts would NOT be considered a similar cut.

2 - Thanks to those of you who have contacted me when you've encountered questionable team uniforms. Remember, the OVR and USAV made a good decision to rescind the "solid colored jersey rule." But in relaxing the Libero uniform requirements, that doesn't mean "anything goes!"

3 - The number zero (0/00) is ILLEGAL, and so is a single digit with a leading zero -- i.e., 01, 02, 03, etc. The player may not participate while wearing this jersey.

4 - PLEASE review the USAV Uniform Guidelines for Clubs, which is posted on the OVR homepage. Although these guidelines are intended to help club directors when they purchase uniforms, it is also helpful for referees. https://www.ovr.org/juniors/uniform_guide.php

5 - Use COMMON SENSE when it comes to determining Libero uniform legality. Ideally, we want a dark vs light contrast, BUT color combinations such as red & blue are generally legal even though neither may be a light (or dark) color.

6 - When an entire team has illegal jerseys, play the match. Notify the coach that the uniforms are illegal, and send a report to me and Bob Price at the conclusion of the tournament. When a SINGLE player has an illegal jersey, she/he cannot play until the jersey is made legal. When a Libero jersey is illegal, either they find a legal Libero jersey, or the player may wear a regular team jersey and they'll play without a Libero.

7 - NO JEWELRY!! Remember, it is our obligation to visually scan the teams during warm-ups to identify uniform or equipment issues. A player may not participate while wearing jewelry, period. That means NO TAPE! Taping over jewelry/piercings does not make it legal. Deal with the coach when there is an issue - do not address the player directly. Best verbiage to use when you encounter jewelry -- "You don't have to take it out, but you can't play while wearing it." Let them decide whether or not they want to remove it.

Let me know if you have any questions regarding uniforms or equipment!

Thanks,

Brian Hemelgarn
OVR Referees' Chair