

Referees,

The whole "supply chain" thing is throwing a wrench the machine for all of us. For OVR clubs, uniform orders may be impacted. Some club directors have contacted me in this regard, and we're going to work with them to ensure the kids can play. Below is an email I sent to all club directors. Just want you to be aware of it as we start the season. Even though that may still be a couple more months away, orders could easily be delayed 2-3 months or more.

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[Sent by Brian Hemelgarn from the OVR List of Juniors' Clubs and Teams]

Club Directors:

Regarding uniforms, a number of you have reached out that your new uniforms are on backorder, or that "supply chain" issues are going to delay their delivery.

We will work with all of you in that regard - no worries. There are lots of options if your uniforms don't arrive in time for your first tournaments of the season.

First and foremost, if you suspect your uniform orders are going to be delayed, please reach out to me now to discuss alternatives so that we're prepared.

I'll throw out a few thoughts so that you can have some ideas in mind:

#1 - Use (similar) uniforms from last season. If you have a consistent color scheme for your club, you might be able to temporarily use some uniforms from last season until new ones arrive. We'll be ok with mixing uniform designs on the same team provided the predominant colors are the same. We'll be less concerned about the trim & design as long as the colors are consistent.

#2 - Consider inexpensive t-shirts with numbers silk-screened on the front & back.

#3 - Worst case, we can use tape to create numbers on a jersey or t-shirt. USAV rules don't actually allow this, but under the circumstances, we'll do what we need to do so the kids can play.

We still need to maintain a clear contrast with the Libero jersey, and all jerseys will still need to have a number on the them. But, we'll be as flexible as possible to accommodate any difficulties you're encountering with your uniform orders.

So, contact me at your earliest convenience if you think there's a chance your uniforms will be delayed. We'll come up with a plan so that you'll have one less thing to worry about as you prepare for the season.

Thanks for all you do for the kids! Hope tryouts have gone well.

Brian Hemelgarn
OVR Referees' Chair