



Worcestershire Football Association

Law 4 Players' Equipment: advice on application of Law at Grassroots Level

Dear Colleagues,

Re: Law 4 Players' Equipment: advice on application of Law

Ahead of Season 2009/2010 I write to remind all participants in the Game that we derive enjoyment from about Law 4 Players' Equipment and its application. At all Levels of the Game; both Professional and Grassroots the following advice will apply:

It is a key responsibility of a referee to ensure that when a game takes place it is safe for it to do so. Part of this responsibility involves the inspection of the players' equipment and all participants in the game are reminded that Law 4 clearly states: "**A player must not use equipment or wear anything which is dangerous to himself or another player (including any kind of jewellery).**"

- Referees will continue to incorporate a pre-match safety check of the players' equipment, including footwear. This process will be managed by the referee to best suit the local circumstances e.g. it may be carried out on the field of play with players and substitutes asked to assemble in a particular area to allow a visual check to be made by the match referee.
- In accordance with Law 4, **all items of jewellery must be removed.**
- Whereas in Season 2008/2009 dispensation was made for a plain wedding band, provided this was made safe (in the opinion of the referee), **you are advised that no exception to the above directive is permitted under Law 4.**

I also take this opportunity to remind you that if undergarments (shirts or shorts) are worn, the colour must be the same main colour as the playing kit or shorts and that if a long sleeved under garment is worn the sleeve colour must be the same colour as the sleeve of the short sleeved shirt. Further advice on wearing jewellery and head coverings, as part of someone's religion is available at www.thefa.com/GrassrootsNew/Referee/

I hope that this assists you with the practical application of Law 4 at grassroots level. Please contact me if you require any further clarification.

Yours faithfully,

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