

## DRESS CODE

Last updated: September 2022

- Associations and Leagues are responsible for determining a dress code policy
- This must be outlined in their competition By-Laws
- The policy should be manageable and consistent for all clubs/teams
- It is the Association/League's responsibility to ensure that any uniform policy developed is appropriately implemented and administrated

When determining a dress code, Associations/Leagues should consider the type of competition conducted (social/mixed/competitive) and the target market (type of participant you are catering for).

**The dress code should encourage participation, whilst maintaining the integrity of the competition.**

## DRESS CODE EXAMPLE

The following can be used as a guide by Associations/Leagues:

### FEMALE PARTICIPANTS – COMPETITION

- (a) All players shall wear positional bibs/patches.
- (b) All players shall wear a uniform of the same design and colour. This may include:
  - Skirt, polo shirt or t-shirt and sport briefs
  - Bodysuit and skirt
  - Lycra Netball Dress
  - Shorts and polo shirt or t-shirt. Shorts must be suitable for sport with no pockets or buckles.
- (c) Bike pants/tracksuit pants worn underneath playing uniform should be permitted for medical reasons, cultural or religious beliefs or in wet/cold weather conditions.
- (d) Appropriate sports footwear should be worn. Footwear needs to provide stability required for quick directional changes, features should include: lacing, non-flared midsole, rigid heel counter and durable grip which enables pivoting (pivot circle in sole).
- (e) Socks should be worn.
- (f) Gloves may be permitted for a medical condition (medical certificate required as proof) or in wet/cold weather to reduce the risk of injury. Gloves should be cotton, with no rubber grip on fingers or palm.
- (g) Wide brimmed or legionnaires hats should be worn whenever practical.

### MALE PARTICIPANTS – COMPETITION

- (a) Male players shall wear shorts and a polo shirt or t-shirt with sleeves.
- (b) Shorts must be suitable for sport with no pockets or buckles.

### MIXED COMPETITION

Male and female players to wear the same colour top and either skirt or shorts. As per the [Equal Opportunity Act](#) – in mixed competitions, females must be given the option to wear shorts.

## TAPING

Fingernails: 1 piece of tape over the top of the nail and 1 piece of tape around the nail.

Body piercing: Tape to fully cover ear, nose, eyebrow ring or any other pierced site.

## SPONSORSHIP ON UNIFORMS

- Netball Victoria reserves the right for Sponsor Identification on positional patches at all State events and competitions (ie. Association Champs, State Titles, VNL)
- Associations may offer sponsor identification on positional patches for any Association/League owned competition. Clubs/Teams should seek permission from the Association/League prior to placing club/team sponsor on positional patches.
- It may not exceed 64 square centimetres (cm<sup>2</sup>/sq.cm) - any dimension combination, eg. 8cm x 8cm.
- There is no restriction on size for sponsor's name and/or logo on non-playing uniform.
- Identification of the clothing manufacturer on players and team officials clothing may only appear once on each article of the playing uniform. The maximum area not to exceed 16 sq. cm.
- If the clothing manufacture is also a sponsor, identification may appear in accordance with the sponsor guidelines.

## EYEWEAR

- (a) Players should wear contact lenses where possible.
- (b) Glasses may be worn to play. Ideally these would be secured and made of a durable, unbreakable material. Players should discuss their individual situation with their Optometrist for professional advice.

## JEWELLERY/BODY PIERCING

- (c) Wedding bands and/or medical alert bracelet may be worn and shall be taped.
- (d) Body piercing (ears, nose, and eyebrow) which cannot be removed should be taped. No adornment that may endanger player safety shall be worn.
- (e) Ensure taping is satisfactory and appropriate sports tape has been used (no Band-Aids).

## RELIGIOUS/CULTURAL BELIEFS

Associations/Leagues must recognise that where religious or cultural beliefs conflict with your standard dress code, modifications may be required.

This may include, but is not restricted to the following:

- The wearing of traditional Muslim head scarf. Headscarves can be tied but not to be fastened with any pins or sharp objects.
- The wearing of leggings or tracksuit pants to cover legs.
- The wearing of a long sleeve top to cover arms.

Associations/Leagues may encourage the colours of headscarves and other garments to be in accordance with the team/club official uniform.

### **TRANSGENDER AND GENDER DIVERSE**

Netball Victoria support the [guidelines](#) for the inclusion of transgender and gender diverse people in sport. The following is from section 5.4 of the Guidelines, which outline how inclusion should be promoted through uniforms.

#### **5.4 UNIFORMS**

All players should be able to play in a uniform in which they feel comfortable.

While a uniform is an important part of sport, particularly team sports, players should be provided with an appropriate range of uniform styles and sizes. Schools are beginning to take this approach in relation to school uniforms.

Sporting organisations can make their uniforms more inclusive by considering whether different men's and women's uniforms are necessary for their sport. If gendered uniforms are necessary, then sporting organisations should:

- Allow players to choose which uniform they would prefer to wear
- Ensure that appropriate sizes are available
- Design options that are suitable for different body types and shapes.

### **PENALTIES**

Any breach of the dress code policy should be outlined in the by-laws. Penalties may include:

- Removal of incorrect item.
- Hiring of uniform (eg.skirt) at a cost of \$5.
- Fine.
- Loss of premiership points.

Note: teams cannot be deducted goals for incorrect uniform. Associations/Leagues are required to find alternative penalties. A warning should be provided in the first instance.

It is the responsibility of the competition supervisor, or allocated person, to speak to the player about their uniform, not the umpires.

**Common sense should be used in all matters pertaining to dress code, nails and jewellery. Players want to play – ensure by-laws enable and include players, not exclude them.**