



MEMO

FOOTBALL FEDERATION SA INC

To: FFSA Clubs, all Registered Participants
From: Craig Zetter – FFSA Head Referee Coach
Date: Thursday, 5th April 2012
Re: Law 4 – Player's Equipment

Dear All

This memo serves as clarification on a number of issues that have been raised in regards to Player's Equipment and the enforcement of the Laws of the Game in relation to this.

Shin Guards

FFSA is aware of a directive that has been issued from a non-affiliated Referee Association in regards to shin guards and the specific requirements for this equipment.

For the purpose of clarifying this issue, the directive issued is incorrect as the Laws of the Game do not provide any specific requirements in regards to the size and use of shin guards except that:

Shin guards are

- *covered entirely by the stockings*
- *are made of rubber, plastic or a similar suitable material;*
- *provide a reasonable degree of protection.*

There is no specific requirement as to the length or size of the shin guards. Referees in FFSA Competitions will be enforcing the Law as it is intended and will not be applying any reference to the specific size of shin guards.

Undershorts/Undergarments

As of 1 January 2012, players in FFSA Competitions are now permitted to wear full length tights or "skins". However as per previous years, all undergarments must be of the same main colour as the shorts or sleeves.

Law 4 now states,

- *if undergarments are worn, the colour of the sleeve must be the same main colour as the sleeve of the jersey or shirt*
- *if undershorts or tights are worn, they must be the same main colour as the shorts*

GPS Units & Heart Rate Monitors

A number of clubs have made enquiries in relation to players wearing GPS Units or devices that track player movement and other fitness data such as Heart Rate Monitors.

These devices are prohibited under the Laws of the Game as they do not form part of Player's Equipment. If players are found to be wearing such devices, they will be directed to remove it by the Match Referee.

This directive is in line with National Policy issued by Football Federation Australia.

Referees in FFSA Competitions will be enforcing the above interpretations in regards to Player's Equipment. If there are any questions or concerns in relation to the Laws of the Game, you can contact FFSA Referee Department refadmin@ffsa.com.au or 8340 3088.

Kind regards

Craig Zetter
Football Federation SA Head Referee Coach