

## **Uniform Requirements – Updated October 2013**

### **Commercial Messages on Athlete Uniforms and Competition Numbers from the SO General Rules**

In order to avoid commercial exploitation of persons with intellectual disabilities, no uniforms, and no bibs or other signs bearing competition numbers, which are worn by Special Olympics athletes during any competition or during any opening or closing ceremonies of any Games may be emblazoned with commercial names or commercial messages. The only commercial markings which may be displayed on athletes' uniforms during Games competitions and opening and closing ceremonies are the normal commercial markings of the manufacturer. For purposes of this Section 4.08(a), "normal commercial markings" are limited to the following:

- On larger clothing items, such as shirts, jackets, pants, jerseys, and sweatshirts, one logo or commercial name per clothing item is permissible, if that name or logo display does not exceed an area of six square inches or 38.7 square centimeters (such as a display measuring 2" x 3" or 5.08 cm x 7.62 cm);
- On small clothing items, such as caps, socks, hats, gloves and belts, one logo or commercial name per clothing item is permissible, if that name or display does not exceed an area of three square inches or 19.35 square centimeters; and
- On athletic shoes, no logos or commercial names are permissible except for names or logos which are included by the manufacturer on athletic shoes which are sold to the general public

### **Commercial Markings on Other Athlete Apparel or Accessories from the SO General Rules**

Special Olympics athletes who are not engaged in competition or in opening/closing ceremonies may wear, carry or use at Games venues other than the sites of competition (such as at training or practice sessions) clothing and/or non-apparel items which are not part of their sports equipment (such as tote bags), which contain small and attractively designed identifications of corporate or organizational sponsors.

**Volleyball** – ([www.fivb.org](http://www.fivb.org)) A player's equipment consists of a jersey, shorts, socks (the uniform) and sport shoes.

- The colour and the design for the jerseys, shorts and socks must be uniform for the team (*except for the Libero*). The uniforms must be clean.
- The shoes must be light and pliable with rubber or composite soles without heels.
- Players' jerseys must be numbered from 1 to 20.
- The number must be placed on the jersey at the centre of the front and of the back. The colour and brightness of the numbers must contrast with the colour and brightness of the jerseys.
- The number must be a minimum of 15 cm in height on the chest, and a minimum of 20 cm in height on the back. The stripe forming the numbers shall be a minimum of 2 cm in width.

- It is forbidden to wear uniforms of a colour different from that of the other players (*except for the Liberos*), and/or without official numbers.

**Soccer** – ([www.fifa.com](http://www.fifa.com) & Summer Sport Rules) The basic compulsory equipment of a player comprises the following separate items:

- A jersey or shirt with sleeves - if undergarments are worn, the colour of the sleeve must be the same main colour as the sleeve of the jersey or shirt
  - All jerseys must be number
  - Numbers must appear on front and back center
- Shorts - if undershorts or tights are worn, they must be of the same main colour as the shorts
- Stockings- if tape or similar material is applied externally it must be the same colour as that part of the stocking it is applied to
- Shinguards
  - are covered entirely by the stockings
  - are made of rubber, plastic or a similar suitable material
  - provide a reasonable degree of protection
- Footwear

**Floor Hockey** - (Summer Sports Rules)

- Mandatory Protective Equipment: All players must wear:
  - Helmets with full face masks
  - Gloves (i.e padded gloves, street hockey gloves, field hockey gloves)
  - Shin Guards (street hockey, ice hockey, soccer guards)
  - The goalkeeper will be allowed to wear regulation size ice hockey goalkeeper pads not to exceed 31 cm (12 inches) in width.
  - Proper athletic footwear (i.e running shoes)
- Recommended Protective Equipment:
  - Elbow pads, Athletic supporter, Knee pads, Goalie chest protector and Mouth piece
- Each player must wear a shirt with distinctive team color and markings and a 15 - 20 cm player number on the back of the shirt.

**Basketball – ( Summer Rules Book & FIBA Rules)**

- All players must wear basketball attire with identifying numbers and flat rubber sole athletic shoes.
- Team uniform shirts and shorts must be identical in trim color and style.

- Shirts of the same dominant colour front and back.
- All players must tuck their shirts into their playing shorts. 'All-in-ones' are permitted.
- Shorts of the same dominant colour front and back, but not necessarily of the same colour as the shirts.
- Socks of the same dominant colour for all players of the team.
- Each team member shall wear a shirt numbered on the front and back with plain numbers, of a solid colour contrasting with the colour of the shirt.
- The numbers shall be clearly visible and:
  - Those on the back shall be at least twenty (20) cm high.
  - Those on the front shall be at least ten (10) cm high.
  - The numbers shall be at least two (2) cm wide.
  - **Legal Jersey Numbers:** 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15
  - Players on the same team shall not wear the same number.
  - Any advertising or logo shall be at least five (5) cm away from the numbers.
- Undershirts, if worn, must match the color of the body of the uniform (not the trim) and must be identical in color. Undershirts may be worn by some or all of the players, and may be short sleeve or tank top (no cut or ragged edges are allowed).
- Head Coverings – Head coverings for religious reasons must be documented with prior to tournament play and meet the same safety standards as for a medical head covering. Head covering must be of a single, solid color unadorned. This includes, but not limited to, sequins, trimmings, or any other forms of decorations. The only exception is an athlete may wear a head band no wider than two inches and made of nonabrasive, unadorned single colored cloth, elastic, fiber, soft leather or rubber. Rubber/cloth (elastic) bands may be used to control hair. They do not need to match uniform color. Sweatbands are also allowed. In the event an athlete is required by a licensed medical physician to cover his or her head with a covering or wrap, the physician's statement must be on file before it can approve a covering or wrap, which is not abrasive, hard, or dangerous to any other player and which is attached in such a way that is highly unlikely to come off during play.
- Individuals who do not adhere to uniform regulations will not be allowed to enter a game.

### **Softball (ASA Softball & Summer Sport Rules)**

#### **SECTION C--UNIFORM (page 10)**

All players on a team shall wear uniforms alike in color, trim and style. Reference to coaches' uniform is found under Rule 4, Section 1b.

Exception: Players and coaches may, for religious reasons, be permitted to wear specific head covering and apparel that does not conform to standard uniform requirements without penalty.

#### 1. Caps

- Caps, visors, and headbands are optional for players but can be mixed. If more than one type is worn, they all must be of the same color and each of the same type must be of the same color and style. Plastic or hard visors are not allowed.
- Exception: Players and coaches may, for religious reasons, be permitted to wear specific head covering and apparel that does not conform to standard uniform requirements without penalty

## 2. Undershirts

- Players may wear a uniform, solid colored undershirt (it may be white). It is not mandatory that all players wear an undershirt if one player wears one, but those that are worn must be alike. No player may wear ragged, frayed, or slit sleeves on exposed undershirts

## 3. Pants/Sliding Pants

- All player pants shall be either all long or all short in style. Players may wear a uniform solid color pair of sliding pants. It is not mandatory that all players wear sliding pants, but if more than one player wears them, they must be alike in color and style except temporary, snap-on or Velcro sliding pads. No players may wear ragged, frayed or slit legs on exposed sliding pants.

## 4. Numbers

- An Arabic number of contrasting color at least 15.2cm (6 in) high must be worn on the back of all uniform shirts. No manager, coach, or player on the same team may wear identical numbers, (numbers 1 and 01 are examples of identical numbers.) Only whole numbers 01 to 99 shall be used. Players without numbers will not be permitted to play.

## 5. Names

- Names: Individual names may be worn above the numbers on the back of all uniform shirts.

## 6. Casts

- Casts (plaster, metal or other hard substances in its final form) may not be worn in a game.
- Note: Any exposed metal (other than a cast) may be considered legal if adequately covered by a soft material, taped and approved by the umpire.

## 7. Jewelry

- No items, other than medical alert bracelets or necklaces, may be worn. Medical alert bracelets and/or necklaces are not considered jewelry, but if worn, they must be taped to the body.
- Effect – Sec 8a-g: If a player refuses to comply with the provisions of Section 8, then that player will be removed from the game.