

Updates to Laws of the Game

2024/2025



Documentation

AYSOU Document Library

- AYSO Referee Guideline (includes AYSO Addendum to LOTG)
- National Referee Program
- Referee Instructor Resource Book
- Regional Referee Administrator Manual
- Recruiting and Retaining Referees
- Referee Mentor Handbook



Documentation

IFAB Documentation may be found at

- www.theifab.com/log-documents
- 2024/25 Law updates become mandatory on July 1, 2024

AYSOVolunteers.org

- AYSO Reference Book (National Rules and Regulations):
<https://aysovolunteers.org/ayso-reference-book/>
- Whistlestop: <https://aysovolunteers.org/links-to-ayso-newsletters/>

wiki.ayso.org



Law 3: The Players

Each team must have a team captain who wears an identifying armband.

Players are responsible for the size and suitability of their shinguards, which remain a compulsory part of their equipment.

Reference to gloves to be included under “Other equipment”

Reference to tracksuit bottoms for goalkeepers to be removed from “Compulsory equipment” and included under “Other equipment”

Law 4: The Players' Equipment

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- Clarification that players are responsible for the size and suitability of their shinguards
- Clarification of the requirements for the captain's compulsory armband
- Reference to gloves to be included under "Other equipment"
- Reference to tracksuit bottoms for goalkeepers to be removed from "Compulsory equipment" and included under "Other equipment"

Law 4: Player's Equipment (Reminder)

1. Safety

A player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous.

All items of jewellery (necklaces, rings, bracelets, earrings, leather bands, rubber bands, etc.) are forbidden and must be removed. Using tape to cover jewellery is not permitted.

The players must be inspected before the start of the match and substitutes before they enter the field of play. If a player is wearing or using unauthorised/dangerous equipment or jewellery, the referee must order the player to:

- remove the item
- leave the field of play at the next stoppage if the player is unable or unwilling to comply

A player who refuses to comply or wears the item again must be cautioned.

Law 4: Player's Equipment

Recent Jewelry Trend: permanently "welded" together thus making it non-removable (e.g., bracelets, earrings, necklaces)



Referees should be cognizant of these trends and not allow jewelry to be worn or taped. The player can choose to either remove the item or not play that day and should be encouraged to use removable jewelry during the season. Parents and Program Administrators should be made aware of this at the start of the season to avoid any conflicts on game day.

Law 4: Player's Equipment

National Rules and Regulations (2.VI.F) of the AYSO Reference Book

- Medical alert bracelets are allowed, and this information must remain visible. However, to ensure the bracelet does not present a danger to the player or other players, it must be secured to the player with tape, a cloth wristband, or something equivalent taking care to leave the information visible. If a medical device is needed to restrict mobility, protect an injury or support proper alignment to expedite the healing process of a temporary injury, and is hard (cast, splint, etc.) then it is not allowed. If, on the other hand, the protective device is used to provide support, and flexibility or enable an otherwise healthy player to function normally such as a knee brace, prosthesis, hearing aid, insulin pump/monitor, monitoring device, **concussion impact reduction aids such soft header helmets and collars that are age and size appropriate, etc.**, then this would be allowed provided the device was sufficiently padded to prevent injury to the wearer, and other players.



The Referee is the sole judge as to whether or not the individual item in question is permissible to wear in the game

Law 12: Fouls and Misconduct

- Clarification that non-deliberate handball offenses for which penalties are awarded are to be sanctioned in the same way as other fouls which are an attempt to play the ball or a challenge for the ball

AYSO Guidance:

The referee is discouraged from displaying a card to 10U players. The referee should approach the offending player's coach, explain the misconduct to the coach while showing the coach you are recording the misconduct on your match report. The misconduct should also be recorded on the back of the game card and a misconduct form completed as required by the competition authorities.

Law 14: The Penalty Kick

- Part of the ball must touch or overhang the center of the penalty mark
- Encroachment by players will be penalized only if it has an impact (same philosophy as goalkeeper encroachment)



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