



## Frequently Asked Questions on Uniforms and Contest Delays Volleyball – 2020-21

*(This document includes specific NCAA Volleyball Rules references where applicable.)*

### **1. What words, logos and symbols are allowed on the jersey?**

Other than the uniform number, here are the only items allowed by rule on the jersey (Rule 7.1-7.1.3.3):

#### Words

- Player's name
- School name/reference
- Mascot name/reference

#### Logos

- NCAA
- Conference
- School
- Mascot
- Postseason Game
- Commemorative
- Insignia

### **2. What size restrictions are there for these?**

Only a single reference can be on the front and/or back of the jersey. There are no size restrictions for player name, school name or mascot. However, the reference cannot alter the integrity of the uniform number. The sleeve(s) can contain a mascot/school reference that cannot exceed 3x5 or 4x4 inches. As authorized by the institution or conference, allow a commemorative/memorial patch (e.g., names, mascots, nicknames, logos, and marks intended to celebrate or memorialize persons, events, or other causes). The patch must not exceed 2¼-square inches and must be placed on the front or sleeve of the uniform and may not interfere with any required markings. While not all team members are required to wear the commemorative/memorial patch, the patch must be identical for those who choose to wear the patch.

### **3. Are any words other than the player's name allowed on the back?**

Yes, the back of the jersey may contain one of the following: player's name, school name or a school mascot reference. Additionally, as authorized by the institution/conference, names/words intended to celebrate or memorialize persons, events, or other causes on the back where the player name is traditionally located are allowed. The names/words may vary by team member.

### **4. May the jersey contain any other words, slogans, messaging, etc.?**

Yes, the jersey sleeve may contain a mascot or school reference (Mighty Ducks, Fighting Irish, etc.). It cannot exceed 3x5 or 4x4 inches.

**5. Are words allowed on wristbands and other attachments?**

The rules do not specifically address other wristbands, arm sleeves, etc. with regard to words or messaging.

**6. What about messaging for causes, organizations, etc.?**

The rules do not specifically address words or symbols that reference charitable causes, political candidates or political issues, social media, religious or club affiliation, etc. There have been exceptions, such as breast cancer awareness month (teams were allowed to have the pink ribbon on the jerseys). As authorized by the institution/conference, names/words intended to celebrate or memorialize persons, events, or other causes on the back of the jersey where the player name is traditionally located are allowed. The names/words may vary by team member.

**7. How does the unsportsmanlike acts rule apply?**

Misconduct is any behavior, action or conduct by a team member toward officials, opponents, teammates or spectators that is deemed inappropriate by the referees. Misconduct is subject to sanction by the first referee (Rule 6.1.1).

**8. What are the rules about jersey colors for opposing teams?**

The rules do not specifically address home and away jersey colors, but the rule book does have a note in Rule 7.1.1.3: *When opponents have jerseys of the same color, it may create confusion regarding which player/team has committed a fault, particularly if the match is being televised. The home team should change colors if possible.*

**9. Is it possible for the visiting team to wear their home (colored) jerseys?**

Yes, especially during a tournament in which teams play more than one match in a single day. There is no penalty if the visiting team wears a white/light jersey (see #8).

**10. What are the rules about the contrast of jerseys and numbers?**

- (Rule 7.1.2-7.1.2.8) Numbers must be solid-colored. A “shadow” trim not to exceed 1.27 centimeters (½ inch) in width is allowable. Either the body of the number or the surrounding trim must be a color that is in sharp contrast to the jersey color. If trim is used, it must completely surround the number.
- Numbers must be located on the jersey in a position where they are clearly visible.
- Numbers must be clearly visible at all times during the match. Rolling or taping the jersey sleeves in such a way that the number is not clearly visible is prohibited.

**11. What is the penalty for wearing a jersey whose numbers do not contrast?**

Teams that wear a jersey during the game that does not conform to the contrasting number rule will be given the opportunity to change into a legal jersey at the start of the match. If

the entire team does not conform to the contrasting number rule an administrative sanction (one-point penalty) will be assessed prior to the first set or when the penalty is discovered. The administrative red card does not impact individual or team sanctions

***12. What is the purpose of the rules regarding numbering and visibility?***

The rules for contrasting numbers and visibility are intended to provide clearly visible numbers for the stakeholders: officials, coaches, fans, media, television audience, etc. This means that the numbers should be clearly visible at a distance under a variety of lighting conditions. ***13. What is the rule regarding refusal to play?***

If a team refuses to play after being directed to do so and has been warned by the first referee, the entire match is defaulted. The act of refusal must be an unsporting act or a verbalization of refusal to play. For other delaying tactics, the team is assessed a delay sanction. (Rule 8.5.3)

***14. Are there any playing rules that specify protocols for student-athletes and/or coaches during the national anthem?***

While there is not a playing rule, the recommended introduction procedures are as follows (Event Management Section):

- Option No. 1: Players move from the team bench to the end line as their names are announced. The national anthem may be played before introductions (while the teams are at their benches) or after introductions (while the players are on the end lines).
- Option No. 2: Players stand on the end lines of their respective courts. The announcer introduces the visiting team first, followed by the home team. The national anthem may be played before or after player introductions.

Additionally, participants should be allowed to express their opinions (e.g., kneeling during the national anthem) as long as the action does not delay or disrupt competition.

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