



**NEW ZEALAND  
FOOTBALL**

## MEMORANDUM

**January 1 2008**

---

**Ken Wallace**  
Referee Development Officer

**At its 121<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting the International Football Association Board (IFAB) approved the following amendments to the Laws of the Game (additions are in blue, deletions are in red):**

As from January 1, 2008 in all competitions  
2007 National Women's League  
2007-8 New Zealand Football Championship

# AMENDMENTS TO THE LAWS OF THE GAME AND DECISIONS OF THE BOARD

## LAW 1 – THE FIELD OF PLAY

---

### Basic Equipment

---

#### Decisions of the International F.A. Board

##### **Decision 4**

There should be no advertising of any kind **on the ground** within the Technical Area or within one metre from the touch line. Further, no advertising shall be allowed in the area between the goal line and the goal nets.

##### NZF Advice to Referees

- *This will only affect matches played at higher levels. In practice advertising may now be displayed on the shelters covering team benches.*

## LAW 4 – THE PLAYERS' EQUIPMENT

---

### Basic Equipment

---

The basic compulsory equipment of a player comprises the following separate items:

- ⚽ a jersey or shirt – **if undergarments are worn, the colour of the sleeve should be the same main colour as the sleeve of the jersey or shirt**
- ⚽ shorts – if **thermal** undershorts are worn, they are the same main colour as the shorts

##### NZF Advice to Referees

- *This ensures that the visible colour of any portion of a garment worn underneath the shirt or shorts is consistent with the main colour. Referees should not concern themselves about undergarments that cannot be seen when a player is standing.*

##### **Decision 1**

- ⚽ Players must not reveal undershirts that contain slogans or advertising. **The basic compulsory equipment must not contain any political, religious or personal statements.**
- ⚽ A player removing his jersey to reveal slogans or advertising will be sanctioned by the competition organiser. **The team of a player whose basic compulsory equipment contains political, religious or personal slogans or statements will be sanctioned by the competition organiser or FIFA.**
- ⚽ Jerseys must have sleeves

## NZF Advice to Referees

- *The issue is the content of the statement, not how it is displayed.*
- *Wearing such statements so that they are visible is prohibited.*
- *Manufacturer's names and logos are excepted*
- *The referee must advise offenders that they will be reported and then use an Incident Report.*
- *Sanctions are the responsibility of others e.g. competition organizer*
- *Referees must deal with any statements that contain offensive or insulting or abusive language and/or gestures according to the Laws of the Game – Law 12.*

# THE FOURTH OFFICIAL

---

## Basic Equipment

---

- ⚽ The fourth official may be appointed under competition rules and officiates if any of the three match officials is unable to continue, **unless a reserve assistant referee is appointed**. He assists the referee at all times.
- ⚽ **A reserve assistant referee may also be appointed under competition rules. His only duty shall be to replace an assistant referee who is unable to continue or replace the fourth official, as required**

## NZF Advice to Referees

- *NZF and Federation appointees will continue to show the specific order of priority in a situation where an official is unable to continue. If there is no such advice then the fourth official will substitute for any official.*

# ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR REFEREES, ASSISTANT REFEREES AND FOURTH OFFICIALS

---

## Celebration of a goal

---

A player must be cautioned if:

- ⚽ **he covers his face with a mask or other similar item**

## NZF Advice to Referees

- *This change in the additional instructions simply extends the existing provision where a player removes the shirt or uses the jersey to cover the shirt as part of a goal celebration.*