



MEMO

To: WWSL Members
From: WWSL Board
Date: November 12, 2025
Re: Jewellery

The Winnipeg Women's Soccer League is a sanctioned league, by the Manitoba Soccer Association and Canada Soccer Association, which abides by the FIFA/IFAB Laws of the Game. This includes IFAB Rule 4 The Players' Equipment specific to jewellery:

4.1 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 unauthorized/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.

The WWSL stance on the rule is as follows:

No item of jewellery of any sort will be allowed, this includes taping, wearing bands over an item.

Game officials must set an example by removing all personal jewellery before entering the field of play (watches are allowed for game officials).

Types of jewellery:

- Earrings: no earrings of any kind are acceptable. The practice of taping is not acceptable.
- Facial rings: any kind of jewellery around the eyes, nose or any other part of the face must be removed.
- Bracelets: all bracelets (including metal, rope, fabric ...) must be removed.
 - Medic Alert bracelets: may be worn but must be covered or padded to be safe for all players.
- Necklaces: all necklaces must be removed.
- Wedding rings: must be removed. The sole exception is a smooth wedding band which the referee is convinced cannot be removed, and which poses no danger to any player.

Watches: players are not allowed to wear any kind of watches. This includes under wrist bands.

Further looking at other aspects that come into question:

Orthopedic supports, e.g., knee braces

- The major concern is not the 'hardness' of the equipment alone, rather it should be whether any part of it can cut or wound another player.
- Any support must be safe for all players and adequately padded/covered.

Casts/Splints: the WWSL prohibits players with casts/hard splints of any kind.

Disciplinary actions:

- The player(s) will be instructed to remove the dangerous item.
- A player who, after having been told to remove jewellery, wears it again will receive a caution.
- If play is stopped to administer a caution the restart shall be an indirect free kick taken from the place where the ball was located when play was stopped.