

## MWSRA Uniform Policy and Guidelines

The following lists the general code of dress for independently contracted soccer officials who agree to do games for the clients of the Metro Washington Soccer Officials Association. By agreeing to accept games from an approved MWSRA assignor you also agree to this Uniform Policy and other standards set by MWSRA. These dress standards apply from the time you arrive at the game site until you leave the game site. All crew members are expected to be similarly attired.

**Referee Jerseys** – MWSRA approves the use of current USSF approved shirts (old or new stripes). Officials are required to have at least one gold shirt. Officials who have worked at least two seasons are required to have a minimum of one alternate color. Officials who have accepted any games from MWSRA for more than four seasons are required at a minimum to have two short and two long sleeve referee jerseys: gold and one other color (i.e. at least 4 shirts). Short sleeve referee jerseys with a long sleeve shirt underneath are not approved for officials with more than 4 seasons of work with MWSRA. Referees should all be wearing the same color during a game.

Only referee jerseys may be worn during a game. No jackets or other garments may cover your referee shirt regardless of the weather during the actual time of play on the field. The exception is for a 4<sup>th</sup> official.

**Referee Shorts** – Black shorts that are of reasonable length should be worn. The only permissible markings on the shorts are manufacturer's logo and/or appropriate federation logos. Shorts with stripes, colored trim, faded or washed out color, below the knee, or other markings are not approved. Exception is made for referees who have worked less than two seasons.

**Referee Pants** – Approved "warm up" pants are plain black with limited markings for manufacturer's logo and federation logo's. Warm ups that have excessive markings, full length stripes, colorings, or are  $\frac{3}{4}$  in length are not approved. Pant legs should be worn at full length and not rolled up to expose the socks. Pants should only be worn in appropriate weather and there is an expectation that all officials will be similarly attired. The primary exception being AR's might wear pants, while center referee in the 3 referee game might prefer shorts.

**Referee Shoes** – Primarily black in color and suitable for the conditions on the field. Shoes should also be clean at the start of each game day. Dirt and other signs of wear from previous game days should not be visible. Though shoes might be expected to show some signs of use, excessive visible signs of wear and tear are not acceptable.

**Hats** – The only acceptable hat is plain black, with a minor manufacturer's logo on the back of the hat. The hat, if worn, must be worn with bill facing forward over the forehead. (i.e. no backwards hats.) Logos of any federation, team, country, charitable cause, pins, markings, etc. are not approved. This rule applies from when you arrive at the site until you leave the site. Plain black knit hats are acceptable in colder weather. The logo restrictions listed previously also apply to knit hats.

**Gloves** – In colder weather gloves are permitted. The gloves should allow the referee to hold a whistle, show cards, and write notes without undue interference or delay. The gloves should be all black with a small manufacturer's logo permitted. Gloves with excess markings, colors, decorations, etc. are not approved.

**MWSRA Warm up Jackets** – MWSRA has provided members with a pre-game outer jacket for cooler weather. It is expected at MWSRA assigned games that these will be worn before and after the game. There will be instances when this is the only approved pre/post game outer wear. If the MWSRA jacket is not worn, the jacket should be primarily black in color with manufacturer's logo and federation logos. The jackets should not reflect support of a team, country, charitable cause, pins, markings, etc. USSF warm-ups at USSF affiliated games are also approved.

**Changing Uniforms** - At times you may need to change shirts due to excess heat, team colors etc. This should be done in a secluded area away from fans and players if possible. At NO time is a bare chest acceptable. Reasonable undergarments should always be worn. Undergarments that become exposed that are torn, show excessive wear and tear or have inappropriate comments are not acceptable. At NO time should an official remove shorts in public regardless of undergarments.

Referees not adhering to these guidelines are subject to fines. Fines may be waived if referee shows proof of purchasing approved equipment within 14 days.