



# **DOMESTIC BASKETBALL PERMITTED 'OTHER EQUIPMENT' POLICY**

Date Adopted by BNSW Board:	February 2021
Effective Date:	February 2021

**Table of Contents**

1. **Date February 2021** .....3

2. **Policy Number POLAD 014** .....3

3. **Purpose** .....3

4. **Wrist Bands (Medical and Non-Medical)** .....3

5. **Sun Hats** .....3

6. **Protective Helmets** .....3

7. **Hair Accessories** .....4

8. **Headgear** .....4

9. **Braids – includes plaited ponytails** .....4

10. **Gloves** .....5

11. **Compression Garments** .....5

12. **Fingernails** .....5

13. **Jewellery** .....6

# Domestic Basketball Permitted Other Equipment Policy

1. **Date** February 2021

2. **Policy Number** POLAD 014

## 3. Purpose

This policy covers the wearing of wrist bands, hats, jewellery, hair accessories, fingernails, braids and gloves for events and competitions conducted at the Association/Club level within NSW. It has been developed to encourage participation and involvement in community basketball.

It is the organisers' responsibility to ensure that all participants are aware of all rules and regulations and that basketball is conducted in a safe manner that promotes a risk-free environment for all participants.

All equipment used by players must be appropriate for the game. Any equipment that is designed to increase a player's height or reach or in any other way give an unfair advantage is not permitted.

The rules regarding Other Equipment (see [4.4 Other Equipment of the FIBA Official Basketball Rules](#)) shall remain and apply to all events and competitions conducted by Basketball NSW.

## 4. Wrist Bands (Medical and Non-Medical)

Every possible step must be taken to eliminate any possibility of another player getting their finger(s) caught under them.

Medical information wrist bands may be worn by players as long as they are;

- a) Covered by either medical strapping tape or an athletic sweatband, and
- b) In no way dangerous to other players.

Non-Medical wristbands rubber, leather and silicon etc. wrist bands (power bands) are regarded as objects which may cause injury to other players and should be removed, however, if they can't be removed then they may be worn as long as they are;

- a) The band(s) are covered with either medical strapping tape or an athletic sweatband, and
- b) In no way dangerous to other players.

## 5. Sun Hats

When playing basketball outdoors, the use of sun hats is not explicitly covered by the FIBA Rules and Interpretations. Basketball NSW has approved the use of appropriate headgear for sun protection as long as the hat is:

- a) In no way dangerous to other players.
- b) appropriate for outdoor basketball.
- c) Does not give an unfair advantage.

## 6. Protective Helmets

An appropriate exemption may be given in circumstances where a player provides medical evidence to wear a helmet for their self-protection because of a disability impairment.

## 7. Hair Accessories

Players **are permitted** to take the court wearing "bobby pins" and/or "one-touch" or "snap" clips to hold their hair back. These items pose no threat of injury to any player on the court.



Players will **not be permitted** to wear barrettes, bandanas, headbands made of metal, or clips larger than a bobby pin or snap clip, especially those present for decorative purposes only. These items do pose a threat of injury due to their increased sizes.



If items in a player's hair are made from a non-abrasive, pliable material, they may be permitted to be worn, provided they pose no threat of injury. This includes headscarves or other fabric articles worn for religious or cultural purposes held in place by bobby pins or snap clips.

## 8. Headgear

Headgear (hijab and yarmulkes) are permitted to be worn, they shall not cover any part of the face entirely or partially (eyes, nose, lips etc.) and shall not be dangerous to the player wearing it and/or to other players. The headgear shall not have opening/closing elements around the face and/or neck and shall not have any parts extruding from its surface.

## 9. Braids – includes plaited ponytails

If a player has their hair braided and it swings freely from their head when running/jumping etc, it may cause harm to another player if struck by the braid.

Referees must instruct players with plaited ponytails to either roll the plait into a bun, or remove the plait and play with a loose ponytail (as long as the ponytail does not hide the player's number).

## 10. Gloves

Gloves may be worn by players as long as they:

- a) Are appropriate for basketball.
- b) Do not give additional reach or grip.
- c) Do not, in any other way, give an unfair advantage to the wearer.
- d) They are in no way dangerous to other players.

The use of gloves to avoid cutting fingernails is allowable as long as they conform to the above requirements.

## 11. Compression Garments

The use of compression garments is becoming more popular in professional leagues around the world and have been permitted to be worn by FIBA for some time now.

At the domestic level the recommendation is the restrictions on colour matching be relaxed as it is not always possible to purchase compression garments that match the same colour of their playing uniform.

Black, white or grey tend to be the main colours available at retail outlets.

## 12. Fingernails

If an official establishes that a player has fingernails that could cause abrasions, they must require the player to:

- a) Closely cut their fingernails to eliminate the threat of causing abrasions (usually not protruding above the finger), or
- b) Cover the protruding fingernails with a suitable protective device such as medical strapping tape (the tape must be applied in such a manner that the taping creates no sharp edges or corners) or wear gloves (see clause 8 Gloves).

The player may not participate until the referee is satisfied that the nails are appropriately covered.

If the protective device (e.g. Strapping tape) falls off during the game, the referee must stop play at the next opportunity and direct the player to remedy the cover. If this occurs more than twice, the referee should instruct the player that they can no longer participate in the game unless the fingernails are closely cut to eliminate the threat of causing abrasions to others.

The referee should prohibit the player from participating in the game in the following circumstances:

- a) Suitable protective measures are not available;
- b) Where a referee is not convinced that such a protective measure will adequately overcome the risk of abrasive injury to others; or
- c) The player refuses to cover the offending fingernails.

### 13. Jewellery

Subject to this section 13, jewellery is not permitted.

Referees should monitor player appearance before the game's commencement, particularly any rings, bracelets, necklaces, earrings and obvious body piercing jewellery.

If an official identifies that a player has jewellery and / or body pierced jewellery that is visible and could cause injury to themselves or other players, they shall be instructed as follows:

- a) Any player wearing an object that might cause injury (such as those objects listed above) must be politely told of the existence of the rule prohibiting jewellery (referees should not presume that a player is aware of the rule) and be asked to remove the object before taking the court.
- b) If a player claims that a particular item cannot be removed, the referee should instruct the player that they must cover the object with a suitable protective device such as medical strapping tape, sweatband etc.

The player may not participate until such time that the referee is satisfied that the object is appropriately covered.

- c) The protective device (e.g. strapping tape) falls off during the game, the referee must stop play at the next opportunity and direct the player to remedy the cover.

If this occurs more than twice, then the referee should instruct the player that they can no longer participate in the game, unless they remove the jewellery.

The referee should prohibit the player from participating in the game in the following circumstances:

- a) A referee is not convinced that such a protective measure will adequately overcome the risk of injury;
- b) Suitable protective measures are not available; or
- c) The player refuses to remove or cover the offending object.

Any player who seeks to participate in defiance of any of the above directions by a referee should be disciplined in accordance with the association's rules.