**USAFL UA Uniforms**

April 2019

*Purpose*

This document serves to provide the details on the USAFL Umpire Association official umpire uniform policy.

*Background*

Traditionally, all umpires wore predominantly white everything (shirt, shorts, socks, wristbands, shoes/boots, and for goal umpires the iconic hats and coats) with splashes of color and group logos. Beginning in the mid-2000s, this was dropped in favor of colored uniforms, which has been changing ever since. Umpire associations around the world have been following (for the most part) what the AFL umpires have done in terms of coloration.

The USAFL is no exception and has approved for use in 2019 (and the foreseeable future) the following uniform scheme designed to take advantage of existing inventory and to keep the cost of acquiring uniforms within reason. The scheme is broken out in levels and by discipline.

*Level 0 Accredited Umpires, All Disciplines*

When an umpire is accredited at Level 0 by the USAFL, the umpire is given an orange umpire shirt at no cost, to be worn when performing duties in any USAFL sanctioned match.

* Field Umpires – are encouraged to wear black shorts with the orange shirt. They may also wear wristbands (orange preferred but white is OK). If a hat or ballcap is desired, it is preferred to be the official white with orange trim hat. However, any is acceptable as long as it doesn’t interfere with performing duties. Shoes or boots may be any color. Socks are preferred to be black.
* Goal Umpires – are encouraged to wear black shorts or long pants (depending on the temperature), with black socks and black shoes. A hat or ball cap is encouraged, preferably the official white with orange trim hat.
* Boundary Umpires – are encouraged to wear black shorts and socks. Shoes or boots may be any color. Wrist bands are encouraged (orange is preferred but white is OK).

*Level 1 and Level 2 Accredited Umpires, All Disciplines*

When an umpire is accredited at Level 1 or Level 2 by the USAFL, the umpire is awarded the official Green shirt (appropriate to the discipline and gender), at no cost. All other gear must be purchased by the umpire. Level 1 and 2 umpires are required to adhere to the following dress code.

* Field Umpires – are required to wear the official green shirt and official black shorts. They may also wear wristbands (green is preferred but white is OK). If they wish to utilize a hat or ballcap, it is preferred to be the official USAFL white with green trim, as long as it doesn’t interfere with performing duties. Shoes or boots may be any color, although black, white and grey are recommended. Socks must be black.
* Goal Umpires – are required to wear the official green shirt and long black pants but depending on the temperature the official black shorts may be worn. Black socks and black shoes are required. A hat or ball cap is encouraged and should be the official USAFL white with green trim. Level 1 and 2 goal umpires are encouraged to own their own set of flags so as not to be dependent on the team or tournament.
* Boundary Umpires – are required to wear the official green shirt with official black shorts and socks. Shoes or boots may be any color, although black, white or grey are recommended. Socks must be black. Wrist bands are encouraged (green is preferred but white is OK).

*Other USAFL UA Gear*

In addition to the game gear as described above, the USAFL UA has official gear available in both men’s and women’s styles such as polo shirts, long sleeve game shirts track pants, track jackets, and long sleeve game shirts. There is also unisex gear including socks, shell membrane jackets, and waterproof jackets.

*Ordering USAFL UA Gear*

The USAFL UA has set up a deal the Project Clothing to run the USAFL UA Merchandise store. Orders will be batched together at multiple points during the year to reduce the cost of maintaining the store and also has the advantage or eliminating minimum order requirements. The USAFL UA will announce these purchasing windows as they are established both on usaflua.com and other social media mechanisms to give everyone proper notice of the opening and closing of the windows.

If you have any feedback or issues with merchandise, please use the Contact page to reach out to Ryan Minmier or Shawn Farber who head up the USAFL UA Merchandise Committee. Contact information is available at <http://usaflua.org/contact/>.