NFHS TRACK & FIELD and CROSS COUNTRY UNIFORM RULES - 2019

RULE 4-3

NOTE: The wearing of a medical alert with the alert visible is encouraged for risk minimization. The ultimate responsibility to have each competitor compliant with uniform rules and other reasonable and legal items is with the coach.

ART. 1 . . . The competitor's uniform shall be school-issued or school approved, worn as intended by the manufacturer, and meet the following requirements and restrictions:

a. Each competitor shall wear shoes on both feet.
   1. The shoes shall have an upper and recognizable sole and heel.
   2. The (shoe) upper must be designed so that it can be fastened securely to the foot.
   3. In cross country, the sole and heel may contain grooves, ridges or track spikes which are no longer than 1 inch.

   NOTE: The games committee may also determine the length of spikes allowed on all-weather surfaces. (3-2-4a)
   4. The use of slippers or socks does not meet the requirements of the rule.

b. Each competitor shall wear a school-issued or school-approved full-length track top and track bottom or one-piece uniform. Any outer garment (e.g., t-shirts, sweatpants, tights) that is school-issued or school-approved becomes the official uniform, when worn.
   1. When numbers are used, each competitor shall wear his/her assigned, unaltered contestant number.
   2. The top and/or bottom or one-piece uniform may have school name, school logo, school nickname and/or competitor's name.
   3. The top shall not be knotted or have a knot-like protrusion. Bare midriff tops are not permitted. The top must hang below or be tucked into the waistband of the uniform bottom when the competitor is standing upright.
   4. Loose-fitting boxer-type bottoms or compression-style bottoms are permitted for boys and girls. Closed-leg briefs are acceptable for girls. French or high-cut apparel shall not be worn in lieu of the uniform bottom. The waistband of a competitor's bottom shall be worn above the hips.
   5. A single manufacturer's logo/trademark/reference, no more than 2¼ square inches with no dimension more than 2¼ inches, is permitted on the top and bottom or one-piece uniform.
   6. One American flag, not to exceed 2 inches by 3 inches, may be worn or occupy space on each item of uniform apparel. By state association adoption, to allow for special occasions, commemorative or memorial patches, not to exceed 4 square inches, may be worn on the uniform without compromising its integrity.

7. Any visible garment(s) worn underneath the uniform top and/or bottom is considered a foundation garment. Foundation garments are not subject to logo/trademark/reference or color restrictions.

ART. 2 . . . Additional restrictions for relay teams and cross country teams.

a. All relay and cross country team members must wear uniforms clearly indicating, through predominant color, school logo and color combination of all outer garments worn as a uniform, that members are from the same team.

NOTE: The official should be able to observe that all members are from the same team.

PENALTY: (Articles 1, 2) For the wearing of an illegal uniform, when a violation is observed and noted by a meet official, the competitor shall be required to make the uniform legal before becoming eligible for further competition, and shall be issued a warning that a subsequent violation shall result in a disqualification from the event. The referee shall be notified of the violation by the observing meet official, and the referee shall then notify or cause to be notified the head coach of the offending school of the competitor's violation and warning.

ART. 3 . . . Removing any part of the team uniform, excluding shoes, while in the area of competition, as defined by the games committee, is illegal.

PENALTY: This shall lead to a warning and if repeated, to disqualification from the event. If the incident recurs, the competitor will be disqualified from further competition in the meet.