



## BRITISH AMERICAN FOOTBALL REFEREES ASSOCIATION LIMITED

### Uniform Policy

The intent of the BAFRA Uniform policy is to ensure all Officials present a consistent, professional image that reflects the integrity of officiating, both on and off the field. This policy promotes respect, unity, and credibility across all events and interactions.

#### On-field Uniform

The uniform to be worn by BAFRA members for all games in Britain shall be as follows:

1. Standard black and white 2" vertical striped shirt with black collar and cuffs.
2. Plain black regulation trousers (pants), with tunnel belt loops and a 1¼ inch white stripe running the length of each leg, worn with plain black socks.
  - Black shorts (with or without a 1¼ inch white stripe running the length of each leg), worn with plain black socks, are permitted if worn by all members of the crew. This should be agreed in advance.
3. A black belt, approximately 1½" wide, with a plain buckle.
4. Black (or predominantly black) shoes with a suitable stud or tread pattern and black laces.
5. A peaked cap (white for the Referee, black with white piping for the other officials).
  - Solid sized hats are preferable to meshed, adjustable ones.
  - Rain hats are permitted.

#### Other notes:

- Uniform may bear only a single manufacturer's or distributor's normal label or trademark (regardless of the visibility of the label or trademark) not to exceed 2¼ square inches in area (i.e. rectangle, square, parallelogram) including any additional material (e.g. patch) surrounding the normal trademark or logo.
- Uniform should not be customised from standard manufacturer issue, unless otherwise stated in this policy. This includes but is not limited to:
  - Indication of Position (e.g. R; U; H; L; B; S; F; C).
  - Official's name or BAFRA number.
- Only those badges expressly approved by the Association may be worn.
  - The BAFRA Badge shall be on the left sleeve with the top of the badge 3" from the shoulder seam.
  - Another approved badge may be worn in the corresponding place on the right sleeve.
  - Competition Authority badges may be worn on the shirt pocket.
  - Badges may either be sewn on or attached by Velcro or similar.
- Any part of the clothing worn under the uniform shirt that shows shall be black in colour.
- Rain jackets, if worn, must have an appropriate stripe pattern.
- Gloves, if worn, shall be predominantly black.
- "Legacy Uniform" may be worn if worn by all officials on the crew (E.G 1" Stripes, white knickers etc).

## On-field Equipment

Officials shall carry the following equipment:

1. Two foul markers, light gold in colour and worn inconspicuously. These may be centre weighted, or with a “ball style” weight (with the ball being black, gold or white in colour).
2. At least two bean bags of suitable design, carried where easily accessible.
3. A whistle (and a spare).
  - Either finger whistles or those on neck and wrist lanyards are recommended.
  - Whistles may carry the manufacturer’s logo and/or the BAFRA Logo but no other customisation.
4. The Umpire, Timekeeper and the Play Clock Operator shall carry suitable stop watches that have been checked for accuracy before the game.
  - Spare watches should also be carried, either by those listed above or by other members of the crew.
5. The Headline shall carry a chain clip (and spare) of suitable design, tie-wraps (or similar) to repair the chain, and tape to mark the mid-point of the chain.
6. Game data card, pencil (and spare), or other method of recording.
7. Down counter (and spare).
  - a. The Umpire (and Centre Judge, if present) should also carry a lateral position marker.
8. The Referee and Umpire shall each carry a Coin for the toss.

## Smoking in Uniform

BAFRA leadership considers that officials smoking (including the use of vapes/e-cigarettes) in uniform does not create a positive impression of BAFRA as an organisation or the sport in general. Officials are therefore asked to exercise discretion when smoking in uniform and ensure they are away from public areas and as far as practical, unobserved.

## Off-field

We expect our officials to uphold a high standard of personal presentation. How we dress reflects not only our individual professionalism but also our attitude toward the role and the pride we take in representing BAFRA. A smart appearance reinforces the standards we set and contributes to the respect and confidence others place in our officiating team.

Arriving and departing from the venue, officials should wear appropriate clothing, which does not draw attention to themselves.

Suggested examples include (but not limited to):

- A plain polo shirt with no more than one small logo on the breast.
- A smart shirt or blouse.
- Formal trousers, skirts, chinos or kilt are suitable options.
- Jeans are permitted provided they are not ripped or distressed. Dark denim is preferred and for clarity, light-blue denim is not considered to meet the BAFRA Board’s standard of appropriate clothing.
- Smart shorts are acceptable in hot weather.
- Formal shoes are encouraged but not mandatory.
- Neutral-coloured trainers with a plain, understated design are acceptable.
- Items purchased from the BAFRA Webstore (via Football America) are encouraged but not mandatory.

Any question on the above should be directed to the General Secretary @ [secretary@BAFRA.info](mailto:secretary@BAFRA.info) .

For prestige assignments (such as bowl games), the expectations of this policy are elevated. Officials are expected to wear “business smart” attire, typically a suit or similarly formal clothing that reflects the significance of the occasion.

In extenuating circumstances (e.g poor changing facilities), an official may arrive already dressed in their officiating uniform. This is permissible as long as their striped jersey is concealed on arrival.

On occasion, an official may choose to depart the venue of a game in different clothes to the outfit they arrived in. This is permitted as long as both outfits meet the expectations of this policy.

### Restrictions

1. Only current BAFRA members may wear uniform or clothing bearing a BAFRA logo
2. Anything bearing the logo of a team is prohibited. This includes caps.