



2017-18 FIBA Rule Interpretations

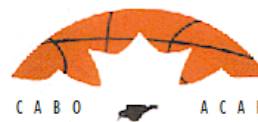
August 22, 2017

From Cam Moskal, CABO National Interpreter

RE: FIBA RULES ARTICLE 4.4 – OTHER EQUIPMENT

ARTICLE 4.4 – OTHER EQUIPMENT – CANADIAN MODIFICATIONS/EXCEPTIONS

The following rules on 'undergarments' are Canadian modifications/exceptions and are designed to bring what is permitted or not permitted closer to the actual FIBA rule (Art. 4.4), which has been revised and valid as of October 1, 2017:



FOR LEVELS OF PLAY UP TO AND INCLUDING SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

The FIBA rules do not allow a player to wear a T-shirt under the game jersey. However, in Canada, since that in certain instances, the players' uniforms do not always fit properly, **wearing a T-shirt is allowed at levels of play up to and including senior high school** if it is **the same dominant colour as the shirts and the sleeves are hemmed and not frayed.**

Concerning compression sleeves, here is what the rule says:

4.4.2 - "The following are permitted:

- **Arm compression sleeves** of the **same dominant colour as the shirts, or black, or white**, but all players on the team must wear the same colour.
- **Leg compression sleeves** of the **same dominant colour as the shorts, or black, or white**, but all players on the team must wear the same colour.

However, in Canada, we will allow:

- A **compression undershirt** with short sleeves or sleeveless only, if it is the **same dominant colour as the shirts, or black, or white**, but all players on the team must wear the same colour.
- **Compression underwear** with short legs only which end above the knee, if it is the **same dominant colour as the shorts, or black, or white**, but all players on the team must wear the same colour.

Please Note:

- **Loose-fitting** long sleeve shirts are not permitted at any time.
- **"Compression"** garments ARE NEVER LOOSE-FITTING (i.e. If it's loose, it is not compression and must be removed.)
- Rule 4.4.2 continues to include the following equipment (objects) that ARE permitted:
 - Wristbands, maximum of 10 cm wide textile material of the same dominant colour as the shirts, or black, or white, but all players on the team must wear the same colour.
 - Headgear (including head bands) of the same dominant colour as the shirts, or black, or white, but all players on the team must wear the same colour. The headgear 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.
 - Taping of arms, shoulders, legs etc. of the same dominant colour as the shirts, or black, or white, but all players on the team must wear the same colour. – *please try to adhere to the rule the way it is written, however, this will be left to the team's discretion.*
 - Ankle braces of transparent colour, or black, or white, but all players on the team must wear the same colour. – *please try to adhere to the rule the way it is written, however, this will be left to the team's discretion.*



FOR LEVELS OF PLAY HIGHER THAN SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Wearing a **T-shirt** (or “loose-fitting” shirt of any kind) under the game jersey is not allowed at levels higher than senior high school.

Concerning compression sleeves, here is what the rule says:

4.4.2 - “The following are permitted:

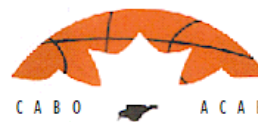
- **Arm compression sleeves** of the **same dominant colour as the shirts, or black, or white**, but all players on the team must wear the same colour.
- **Leg compression sleeves** of the **same dominant colour as the shorts, or black, or white**, but all players on the team must wear the same colour.

However, in Canada, we will allow:

- A **compression undershirt** with short sleeves or sleeveless only, if it is the **same dominant colour as the shirts, or black, or white**, but all players on the team must wear the same colour.
- **Compression underwear** with short legs only which end above the knee, if it is the **same dominant colour as the shorts, or black, or white**, but all players on the team must wear the same colour.

Please Note:

- **Loose-fitting** long sleeve shirts are not permitted at any time.
- “**Compression**” garments ARE NEVER LOOSE-FITTING (i.e. If it’s loose, it is not compression and must be removed.)
- Rule 4.4.2 continues to include the following equipment (objects) that ARE permitted:
 - Wristbands, maximum of 10 cm wide textile material of the same dominant colour as the shirts, or black, or white, but all players on the team must wear the same colour.
 - Headgear (including head bands) of the same dominant colour as the shirts, or black, or white, but all players on the team must wear the same colour. The headgear 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.
 - Taping of arms, shoulders, legs etc. of the same dominant colour as the shirts, or black, or white, but all players on the team must wear the same colour. – *please try to adhere to the rule the way it is written, however, this will be left to the team’s discretion.*
 - Ankle braces of transparent colour, or black, or white, but all players on the team must wear the same colour. – *please try to adhere to the rule the way it is written, however, this will be left to the team’s discretion.*



IMPORTANT NOTES:

#1 – As of November 2016, Canada Basketball and CABO have endeavoured to set a standard, consistent message across the country as it relates to ‘undergarments’. These policies are produced due to the inconsistent application of the definition of “uniform” across Canada. We are aware that some conferences/leagues currently have their own regulations when it comes to the rule, but it is our intention to bring the country closer to the actual FIBA rule **Where no conference/league policy exists, please use the above policy.**

#2 - The rule in the FIBA Rule Book only permits ‘arm compression sleeves’ and ‘leg compression sleeves’...no other undergarments of any kind.

#3 – ‘Arm compression sleeves’ or ‘leg compression sleeves’ are not considered “undershirts” or “underwear” – they are devices simply pulled onto the arm or leg.

“**Compression Underwear**” are form-fitting garments, often made from a spandex-type material, and when worn, cover the athlete's waist to mid or lower thigh. Such as:



#4 – Basically, we have seven types of items to consider:

1. **T-Shirts** - **the same dominant colour as the shirts** (only for levels up to & including high school)
2. **Arm Compression Sleeves** - **same dominant colour as the shirts, or black, or white, but all players on the team must wear the same colour** (all levels)
3. **Leg Compression Sleeves** - **same dominant colour as the shorts, or black, or white, but all players on the team must wear the same colour** (all levels)
4. **Compression Undershirts** - short sleeves only if it is the **same dominant colour as the shirts, or black, or white**, but all players on the team must wear the same colour (all levels)
5. **Compression Underwear** - short legs only if it is the **same dominant colour as the shorts, or black, or white**, but all players on the team must wear the same colour (all levels)
6. **Wristbands** - **same dominant colour as the shirts, or black, or white, but all players on the team must wear the same colour.**
7. **Headgear** - **same dominant colour as the shirts, or black, or white, but all players on the team must wear the same colour.**