To: Chair, State Referee Committee   cc: State Presidents
        State Referee Administrators   State Assoc. Exec. Dir.
        State Directors of Referee Instruction   State Assoc. Office Mgrs.
        State Directors of Referee Assessment   Daniel T. Flynn
        National Referees, Assessors, and Instructors   Julie Ilacqua

From: Alfred Kleinaitis
        Manager of Referee Development and Education

Re: Law 4, "The Players' Equipment" (Jersey Sleeves)

Date: June 27, 2002

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        As of July 1, 2002, The Laws of the Game have been amended to include a statement
that "Jerseys must have sleeves" (Law 4, International FA Board Decision 1). Several questions
have been raised regarding the practical effects of this change in the Law (caused by the
appearance in international play of a national team wearing a sleeveless uniform shirt.) In
response to the confusion about the intent of the rule change, we have prepared some common
sense guidelines for referees to follow.

Intent of the Rule Change

        The requirement that "jerseys must have sleeves" is intended to deter player efforts to
        alter their jersey in any way.

Guidelines for Enforcing this Rule

1. The sleeve must be recognizable as a genuine extension of the armhole of the
    uniform shirt being worn and able to perform the function of a sleeve commonly
    accepted in everyday wear.

2. Players may not alter their uniform by cutting off the sleeve or shortening it
    significantly.

3. Referees are asked to call player attention to these requirements if uniforms are
    altered, just as they would if shirts were not tucked in or socks not pulled up.

4. Details regarding jerseys which have no sleeves or shortened sleeves should be
    included in the referee's match report submitted to the competition authority.
    **However, since this is not a safety issue, a team or an individual player must
    not be prevented from playing solely for this reason.**

5. Finally, as a member of FIFA, we are obliged to follow their rule changes, however,
    we ask that you use common sense and good judgement on the application of this
    rule change.

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