



# WFTDA OFFICIATING UNIFORM POLICY

*The uniform procedures outlined in this document are guidelines advised for officiating all play under The Rules of Flat Track Roller Derby, and are required for WFTDA Continental Cups, Playoffs, and Championships. Officials participating in games or tournaments other than these WFTDA-managed events should contact the event organizers or Head Official(s) for changes or addendums to the elements outlined in this document. Leagues should use this policy as a guideline for forming their own Officiating Uniform Policies, adjusting, adding, and/or removing items, allowing leagues to create a policy specific to the needs of their own games and events. Updated July 2019.*

## GENERAL UNIFORM

1. All clothing, including alterations, must be of professional quality and kept in good repair. Officials should appear to be professional and be clearly identifiable as Officials.
2. Officials may wear jewelry and accessories with discretion while avoiding the appearance of any bias. Jewelry and accessories that might be considered distracting are prohibited.
3. Officials must not wear team or league-related logos, accessories, or apparel.
4. Officials must not wear recording devices of any kind unless approved by the highest level of Head Official present. Officials are never required to wear a recording device.
5. Officials may wear dresses in the pattern of the Referee jersey or the black NSO top, to match their role
6. Officials may wear accessories, including hats or other head coverings, provided they appear professional and unbiased. Headwear should strive to conform with similar patterns and standards dictated for other elements of an Officials' uniform. In the case of Skating Officials, accessories may not interfere with the functionality of safety equipment or introduce safety risks such as sharp edges.

### Tops

1. Tops must be long enough to cover the midsection while at rest.
2. Officials may add only these patches to their top:
  - a. the WFTDA patch, worn on the upper left chest,
  - b. certification patches, worn on the right sleeve,
  - c. the official patch of their country/region of residence or origin, worn on their left sleeve,
  - d. a patch identifying an Official's pronoun(s), placed on the right chest in the same way as a chest-located name (above or below an chest-located name, if also worn).

3. All patches and name plates must be sewn or otherwise permanently affixed to the uniform. Safety pins or other means of temporary attachment are not allowed. Magnetically affixed nameplates or velcro sewn to both the jersey and patch are acceptable.
4. If an Official displays their name or a number on a top, it may be either on the back or the front of the top. Numbers must be a numeral of no more than four digits. If the name or number is displayed on the back then it must be clearly readable; if the name or number is on the front then it will be printed in the upper right chest area, at approximately the same size or smaller than the WFTDA patch.

### **Bottoms**

1. If not wearing a dress, an Official must wear predominantly black pants or shorts, black skirt, or black kilt.
2. Bottoms (including dresses) must adequately cover and conceal the genitals and buttocks at all times while officiating. If the bottoms do not meet this requirement, opaque black shorts, tights, leggings, or similar must be worn underneath to accomplish this concealment.
3. If worn, belts and socks must be black and/or white.

### **Whistle**

1. Fox 40 (Classic or Mini) is required.

## **SKATING OFFICIALS**

### **Tops**

1. Skating Officials must be easily identifiable by their uniform as the Skating Officials for the game, wearing a black and white vertically-striped top with stripes between 1 and 2 inches (or between 2.5 and 5 cm) wide. A breast pocket is acceptable so long as it matches the pattern of the top.
2. Alternate Referees may wear stripes, but they must be mostly covered by nondescript black clothing or black WFTDA apparel.

### **Gear**

1. All safety gear mandated for Skaters in The Rules of Flat Track Roller Derby must be worn by Skating Officials, with the exception of a mouthguard.
2. Skating Officials are encouraged to wear a predominantly black or white helmet.
3. Skating Officials are required to wear quad or inline skates.

### **Accessories**

1. Skating Officials may wear bandanas, head scarves, or other head coverings that can be worn under their helmet. The headwear must appear professional and must not interfere with the function and safety of their helmet. It is encouraged for the headwear to be predominantly black or white, unless in keeping with religious traditions.

## NON-SKATING OFFICIALS (NSOs)

### Tops

1. NSOs must wear a black top differentiating themselves from Skating Officials (Example: the official WFTDA NSO top).
2. If present, the word "OFFICIAL" should be printed on the back of the top between the shoulders in high-contrast letters.

### Accessories

1. Shoes must have closed toes. (Note: This is a requirement in the [WFTDA Risk Management Guidelines](#); this element cannot be waived by a Head Official for sanctioned games or any events covered by WFTDA liability insurance.)
2. NSOs may wear hats, bandanas, headbands, head scarves, or other head coverings. The headwear should appear professional. It is encouraged for the headwear to be predominantly black and/or white unless in keeping with religious traditions.

## NON-COMPLIANCE PROCEDURES

### **For all events requiring direct compliance to this policy, including WFTDA Continental Cups, Playoffs, and Championships:**

Immediate removal of a participating Official from a game in progress is limited to violations related to safety or bias, unless issued by the most senior present Games Tournament Oversight officer (GTO). All other uniform issues must be rectified between games, as soon as reasonably possible. The Head Official(s) may remove any Official who they feel fails to comply with this policy.

A removed Official may return to officiating duties when they have addressed their uniform issue(s).

The Head Official(s) have the authority to make the final decision on any points not specifically covered in this document. Any violation that results in the removal of an Official, even if only temporary, should be reported to the Tournament Officials Selection Panel (TOSP) by the Tournament Head Officials before the end of the day.

A removed Official may appeal the decision through the GTO.

The consent of the most senior present GTO is required for permanent removal of an Official from the event.