



## NEW ZEALAND TENNIS UMPIRES ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

P.O.Box 11 128, Sockburn  
Christchurch 8443

### Tennis New Zealand Dress Code from the TNZ Code of Conduct 2008

*Extracted and commented by NZTUA Administrator – Tony Glentworth 16/04/09*

#### 6 DRESS CODE

All Tennis New Zealand sanctioned events shall follow the dress code set down in rule 6. However, for Group 2 and 3 open events and 1 and 2 star junior events rule 6 (b) “Commercial Identification” does not apply except when the tournament organisers specify that it does. It is the responsibility of the tournament organisers to inform players if this is required.

For the National Teams’ Events, Group A and 1 events and National Junior Events (3 star) all conditions in rule 6 apply. Variations to these regulations may apply to certain ITF, ATP and WTA events.

**\*\* All National Events are to adhere to this code, local and regional events below 3 star can choose whether to comply with the provisions of this code, this should be included on the fact sheet or entry form for the event\*\***

#### Dress Code

All players shall dress and present themselves in an appropriate manner for tennis. Clean and customarily acceptable tennis attire shall be worn including during the warm-up.

##### a) Unacceptable attire

Unacceptable attire includes gym, beach or rugby shorts, sweatshirts, skivvies or T-shirts and any other attire deemed inappropriate by the referee or tournament management in consultation with the referee.

Players’ footwear must have a sole designed for tennis and be of a type permitted on the court surface being used.

Tennis NZ gear is allowed to be worn at any Tennis NZ sanctioned tournament. This overrides the following Commercial Identification rules.

##### b) Commercial Identification

1) Clothing bearing the name of a particular tennis event or a team in that event may only be worn during that event and applies to teams events only.





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### 2) Shirt, Sweater or Jacket

- (i) **Sleeves:** One (1) commercial (non manufacturer's) identification for each sleeve, neither of which exceeds three (3) square inches (19.5 sq.cm) plus one (1) manufacturer's standard logo on each sleeve, neither of which exceeds eight (8) square inches (52 sq.cm). If written identification is used within the eight (8) square inches (52 sq.cm) on either or both sleeves, such written identification may not exceed (4) square inches (26 sq. cm).

**\*\*The area covered by a recognisable manufacturer's logo that does not contain words can be up to 8 sq inches on each sleeve. Typical examples are the Adidas stripes or the Nike tick. If either sleeve contains writing this reduces to 4 sq inches per sleeve\*\***

- (iii) **Sleeveless (Female):** Two (2) commercial (non manufacturer's) identification, neither of which shall exceed three (3) square inches (19.5 sq.cm) on the front of the garment. The manufacturer's standard logos permitted on the sleeves above may not be placed on a sleeveless shirt.

**\*\*Sleeveless or cut off sleeve shirts cannot have manufacturer's logos that were allowed on the sleeves placed on the front or back of the shirt\*\***

**Sleeveless (Male):** The commercial (non manufacturer's) identifications and manufacturer's standard logos permitted on the sleeves above, may not be placed on a sleeveless shirt.

**\*\*This rule has been changed at international level and expect a change in the NZ Code with the next writing\*\***

- (iv) **Front, Back and Collar:** Total of two (2) standard logos of the manufacturer, neither of which exceeds two (2) square inches (13 sq.cm), or one (1) standard logo of the manufacturer not to exceed four (4) square inches (26 sq. cm) in any of the locations.

**\*\* This means no other combination of logos can be substituted for these sizes. Adidas stripes on the front, back and under arms of garments are generally outside of this code and are therefore unable to be worn in National events\*\***





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### 3) **Shorts/skirts**

Two (2) standard logos of the manufacturer, neither of which exceeds two (2) square inches (13 sq. cm) or one (1) standard logo of the manufacturer not to exceed four (4) square inches (26 sq.cm). On compression shorts, one (1) manufacturer's standard logo not to exceed two (2) square inches (13 sq.cm) and which shall be in addition to the two (2) authorised logos on shorts.

**\*\*The largest logo allowed on shorts is 4 sq inches. If it is this size there can be no other logo\*\***

### 4) **Dresses**

For the purposes of allowed identification, a dress shall be treated as a combination of a shirt and a skirt (dividing the dress at the waist).

### 5) **Socks/Shoes**

Standard logos of the manufacturer on each sock and on each shoe. The logos on the sock(s) on each foot shall be limited to a maximum of two (2) square inches (13 sq.cm).

### 6) **Racquet**

No inappropriate signage on racquet or strings

### 7) **Hats & Caps**

The hat or cap is to be of a type specially designed for sport, be of a regular colour/design and may have on it the logo or name of a recognised tennis clothing manufacturer (front and back), or the name/logo of the event (or event sponsor) in which the player is taking part. Hat/caps with other wording or logos are not permitted.

**\*\*Any sports cap that is either unbranded or is a tennis brand, or is a sponsor of the event can be worn at TNZ sanctioned event. There is no restriction on the size or number of logos. This is a relaxation of the original rule and most referees have not picked up on this change. NZTUA will inform all referees of this change for future events\*\***

### 8) **Headbands and Wristbands**

One (1) standard logo of manufacturer not to exceed two (2) square inches (13 sq. cm).

**Note:** Tennis NZ now enforces the Adidas "3 stripes" as a manufacturer's identification and all Referees will be required to ensure that the "3 stripes" are within the size limitation outlined above.





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### c) Warm-up clothing

Warm-up clothing (including tracksuits) may be worn during warm-up but not during a match unless the referee gives permission. Removal of warm-up clothing is to take place during the prescribed warm-up time to the match. Warm-up clothing must comply with all provisions of Rule 6 (b).

**\*\*All warm up clothing has to comply with the same criteria as the shirts listed above. This means no sweatshirts or jackets from other sports, or team tracksuits when not playing in a team's event unless they meet the code outlined above\*\***

We hope you are able you use this information deciding on your next shopping purchases for Tennis Apparel. Many manufacturers produce multiple designs of playing shirt and it is sometimes difficult to determine what is legal and what is not. Of particular note are manufacturers who sew designs into shirts that only show up after the player has been wearing the shirt for part of the match and begins to perspire. Adidas, Nike and Lotto are brands which use this technology to try and get round tennis' strict dress code. Tennis referees do not make the laws for this we are only charged with enforcing them. Tennis' governing body, the International Tennis Federation do not want Tennis turning into a commercialised event like Formula One where the participants are forgotten in favour of the advertising. We, the referees, are more than happy to discuss the dress code and help you understand it better. Please also be aware in NZ we have 6 different dress codes to enforce dependant on which event we are refereeing at so even referees could be confused. 😊

*Tony G*

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