



The FA Kit and Advertising Regulations

Season 2008-09



INTRODUCTION

These Regulations are made pursuant to FA Rule J2 and The Association's Regulations for the Registration and Control of Referees.

Clubs participating in International competitions must also comply with the relevant regulations of FIFA, UEFA or other Confederations.

It is recommended that clubs and clothing manufacturers seeking clarification of any of the regulations do so by referring to the specific competition rules and The Football Association.

We would encourage clubs and clothing manufacturers to seek feedback at the earliest possible time, in relation to designs and advertising from The Football Association and their specific competition.

The Football Association have produced an on-line version of these regulations providing a practical guide on how to apply these formal regulations. This can be found at www.TheFA.com/TheFA/RulesandRegulations/KitAdvertising

The Football Association has created this publication in order to provide clubs with a practical guide on how to apply the formal regulations relating to advertising on the clothing of players, club officials and match officials. However, note that rules of a specific Affiliated Association or competition may deem it necessary that they are referred to when permission for advertising is being sought or amendments to advertising are proposed.

These regulations are extracted from pages 248-253 of The FA Handbook Season 2008-09, Rules of the Association and Laws of the Game.

For any further clarification on the contents of this publication and matters relating to it, please contact Angela Taggart, FA Governance Division, 020 7745 4768, angela.taggart@thefa.com



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DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

'Advertising' means any designation, message, logo, trademark, name or emblem of any nature.

'Clothing' means the match clothing of a player, club or match official and shall include without limitation shirts, shorts, socks, undershorts, t-shirts (or any other item of clothing worn under the shirt), sweat-bands, headbands, caps, tracksuits, gloves, waterproofs, sweat tops, sock tie-ups. Also, any outer garments worn by substitutes and club officials in the technical area at any time. Save where stated to the contrary, football boots are not considered as clothing.

'Clothing manufacturer' means any undertaking that carries out the business of the manufacture or licensing of football clothing and has been appointed by the club concerned to supply the clothing.

'Club Officials' in these regulations includes any club official as defined in the rules who has team duties such as managers, coaches, physiotherapists, and doctors and includes any person who takes up a position in the technical area at any time during a match.

(Note: In calculating the area of any advertising referred to in these regulations, the usual mathematical formula will be used, and any outlines or box surrounds of the relevant designation, message, name, logo, emblem or mark, and all included space, shall be considered as part of the area of advertising.)



A. GENERAL

1. Save as set out in these regulations, advertising on clothing is prohibited during the period of a match. This applies to players, including substitutes, any others in the technical area, including club officials and to match officials. The rules of an Affiliated Association or competition may provide that for matches under their jurisdiction a club is obliged to obtain permission for any of the advertising listed in Section C below, subject always to these regulations.
2. Where the rules of an Affiliated Association or competition require a club to obtain permission under A(1), a new application for permission must be made to the appropriate body each time it is proposed to amend the advertising. Subject to the provisions of Section B2 and Section C(5) below, or any relevant provisions of the appropriate competition, there is no restriction on the number of such applications that may be made during the course of each season.
3. Disciplinary action in accordance with the rules may be taken against a club, player, club official or match official for any breach of these regulations.
4. The appearance on, or incorporation in, any item of clothing (including football boots) of any distasteful, threatening, abusive, indecent, insulting, discriminatory or otherwise ethically or morally offensive message, or any political message, is prohibited. The advertising of tobacco products is prohibited.
5. A club shall observe all recognised advertising standards and in particular those of the Advertising Standards Authority.
6. Advertising entailing the use of numerals is permitted only if such numerals clearly form part of the advertising and cannot in any way be confused with players' shirt numbers.
7. No colour or design may be used in advertising that might create problems of identification for match officials and/or opponents. The colour and design of the clothing of opponents, goalkeepers and match officials must be taken into account.



8. Without limiting the effect of the above, in the case of a team comprising players all under the age of 18 years on 31 August in the current season, the appearance on or incorporation in any item of clothing of any reference whatsoever to a product, service or other activity which is considered by The Association as detrimental to the welfare, health or general interest of young persons, or is otherwise considered inappropriate, having regard to the age of the players, is prohibited.

It is the view of The Football Association that examples of such products, services or related activities would include, but are not limited to, alcohol and gambling.

Prior to entering into any contractual agreement with a product, activity or service that may be considered to be detrimental or inappropriate to young persons, clubs should contact The Football Association to seek approval.

9. Any issues arising in relation to the interpretation or effect of these regulations shall be referred to The Association for its determination, which shall be final and binding (subject to provisions relating to match officials).
10. A club shall supply on demand to The Association any item of clothing for consideration as to whether it complies with these regulations.



B. PERMITTED ADVERTISING (not relating to sponsors)

The following advertising is permitted:

1. Club emblem and name

The officially designated club emblem, name, initials, nickname or a combination of such may appear:

- a. Once only on the front of the shirt, and once only anywhere on the shorts providing it does not exceed an area of 100 square centimetres (see figure 1 and 2, page 10).
- b. Once only on each sock providing it does not exceed an area of 50 square centimetres (see figure 3, page 10).

An additional officially designated Club emblem, name, initials, nickname or a combination of such may appear on each sock providing it does not exceed an area of 50 square centimetres and is covered when a football boot is worn (see figure 4, page 10).

- c. Once only on each sock tie-up providing it does not exceed an area of 100 square centimetres. The sock tie-up may show the player's name, player's squad number, competition name, sponsor designation and date of match or any combination of the same. Clubs must receive the approval of the Competition for the use of sock tie-ups.

The officially designated club emblem, name, initials, nickname or web site address, may appear once only on the collar or collar zone of a shirt and/or tracksuit, provided such does not exceed an area of 50 square centimetres (see figure 5, page 10).



2. Clothing manufacturer

The established mark, logo or name of the clothing manufacturer, or a combination of the same, may appear once only:

- a. On the shirt and on the shorts provided it is an area no greater than 20 square centimetres (see figure 7, page 11).
- b. On each of a goalkeeper's gloves and on a goalkeeper's cap provided such does not exceed an area of 25 square centimetres (see figure 6, page 10).
- c. On each of an outfield player's gloves provided such does not exceed an area of 20 square centimetres.
- d. On the front and back of any t-shirt or any other items of clothing worn under the shirt provided such does not exceed an area of 20 square centimetres and this is not visible outside the playing shirts during the period of the Match.
- e. On undershorts worn under playing shorts provided such does not exceed an area of 20 square centimetres and this is not visible outside the playing shorts during the period of the Match.
- f. (i) The established mark, logo or name of a clothing manufacturer, or a combination of the same, may also appear up to twice on each sock between the top edge and the ankle, provided that it is an area no greater than 20 square centimetres for such mark, logo or name (or combination thereof) where it appears once on each sock or 10 square centimetres where it appears twice on each sock. It may be incorporated into the design of the socks, but must be limited to 10 square centimetre repeats and must be restricted to any turn-over on the socks (see figure 8, page 11).
- (ii) An additional established mark, logo or name of a clothing manufacturer, or a combination of the same, may appear once only on each sock providing it does not exceed an area of 50 square centimetres and it is not visible when wearing a football boot (see figure 4, page 10).



g. (i) An additional established mark, logo or name of the clothing manufacturer may be used once or repeatedly on either/or both sleeves as part of the design on the trim or taping of shirts, shorts and socks. Such trim or taping shall be limited to down the outer seam of the shirt (armhole to the bottom of the shirt), or the length of the sleeve (neck to cuff), or across the bottom of each sleeve (cuffs) and to the bottom edge of the shorts or down the outer seam of the shorts and across the top edge of the socks (see figure 9, page 11).

(ii) The mark, logo or name of the clothing manufacturer which appears once or repeatedly, as part of the design on the trim or taping of shirts, shorts and socks shall be restricted to a maximum width of 10cm on the shirts and shorts and to a maximum width of 5cm on brand-new (unworn) socks (see figure 8, page 11).

h. The same established mark, logo or name or combination must appear on all clothing of all players and club officials wherever such advertising appears.

(i) Once submitted to and approved by a competition, the established mark, logo or name or combination on players' and club officials' clothing may not be modified during the course of that season, without the approval of the competition.

3. Jacquard weave

A jacquard weave or similar technique is allowed providing each is limited to 20 square centimetres, with unlimited repeats being acceptable. The design of such jacquard weave may be the manufacturer's mark, logo or name, or the club's officially designated emblem, or name, or nickname or a part of the same or names of individuals (e.g. club supporter). The jacquard weave must be incorporated in the main colour and/or minor colours. It must neither dominate nor affect the distinctiveness of the kit and shall be restricted to two shades from the base colour using a standard Pantone reference manual.

Clubs must receive the approval of the Competition to apply the names of individuals into a jacquard weave or similar technique.



4. Product marks and seals of quality

An official licensing product mark or seal of quality is permitted on the outside of the clothing only if competition rules so allow. However, it may not exceed 20 square centimetres in size. Such shall be placed only on shirts and on an area which is hidden when the shirt is tucked inside the shorts.

A second, smaller licensing mark or seal of quality is allowed on the shirt or shorts in the form of a label which must not exceed 12 square centimetres and must be placed along the torso outer seam.

5. Numbers

Where the competition rules require a number on the back of the shirt, it should be clearly legible and positioned in the centre of the back of the shirt. The number should be between 20cm and 35cm in height with provision for each competition to set specific criteria.

A number may also appear on the front of the shorts which must correspond with the number on the shirt. The number should be between 10cm and 15cm in height with provision for each competition to set specific criteria.

The officially designated logo or name of the competition or combination of the same may appear once only on each of the player's shirt numbers providing the logo, name or combination does not exceed an area of 20 square centimetres. No other advertising or any other marking is allowed on players' shirt numbers.

6. Players' names

The name of a player may appear on the back of shirts or tracksuits only if competition rules so permit. The height of the lettering must not be greater than 7.5 centimetres.

7. Other logos

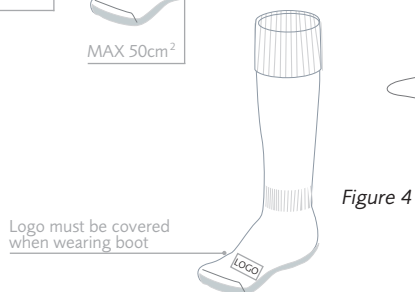
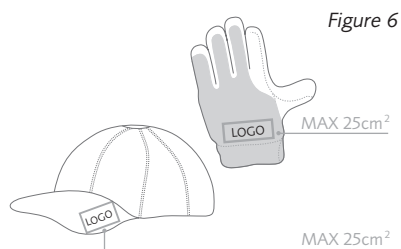
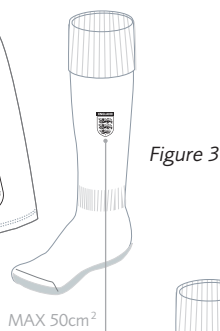
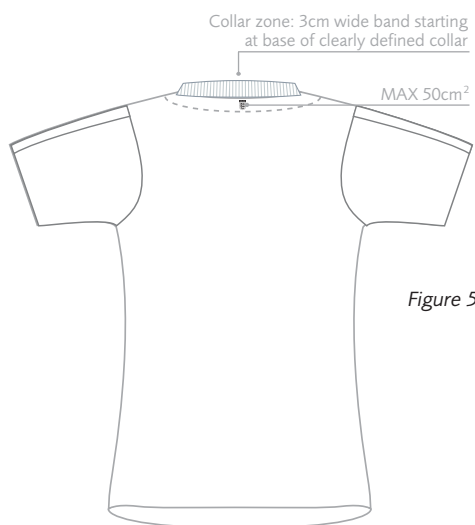
The officially designated logo or name of an Affiliated Association or competition may appear once only on each sleeve of shirts, provided Affiliated Associations or competition rules so permit. Such mark must appear between the shoulder seam and the elbow and must not exceed 100 square centimetres.

The officially designated logo, or name of any awards or titles won in previous seasons or commemorative occasions may appear on shirts, provided such does not exceed an area of 100 square centimetres and permission has been granted from the competition in which the kit is to be worn.



CLUB EMBLEM

Regulation B.1





CLOTHING MANUFACTURER

Regulation B.2

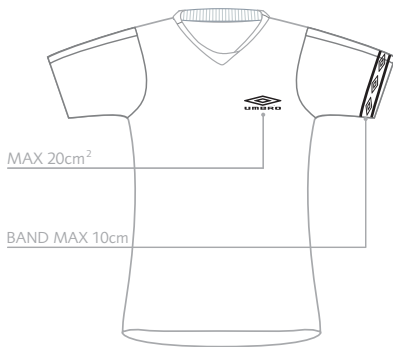


Figure 7

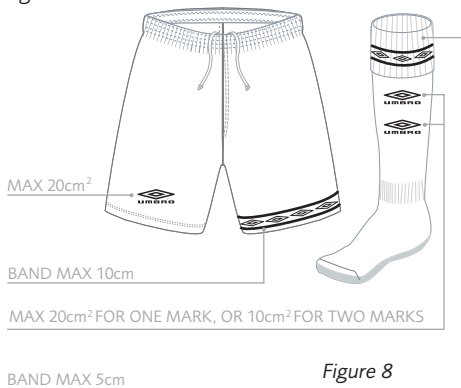


Figure 8

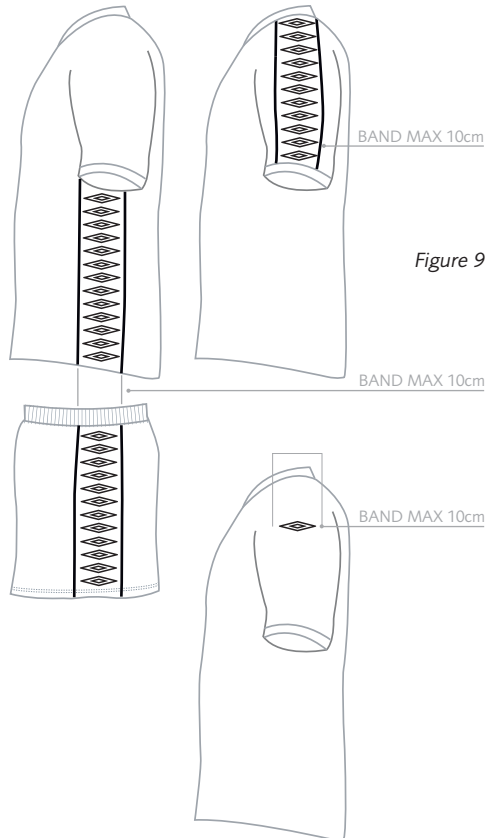


Figure 9



C. SPONSOR DESIGNATIONS

The following advertising is permitted:

1. Playing Kit

- a. On the clothing of a player on the field of play, the following areas shall be permitted to be used for advertising:
 - One single area not exceeding 200 square centimetres on the front of the shirt (see figure 10, page 14).
 - One single area not exceeding 100 square centimetres on the back of the shirt (see figure 12, page 15).
 - One single area not exceeding 100 square centimetres on the back of the shorts (see figure 13, page 15).
 - Once only on each sock tie-up providing it does not exceed an area of 100 square centimetres (see figure 11, page 14).

In the event that a club or competition elects to have an area of sponsor advertising only on the front of the shirt, and on no other item of playing kit, that area may be increased to a maximum of 250 square centimetres if approved by the competition.

No other advertising is permitted anywhere on the clothing of a player on the field of play during a match. Such advertising can be used for advertising one or more companies and, in respect of any company, one or more of their products. The same advertising must appear in the same form on the clothing of all players and club officials wherever such advertising appears, throughout the entirety of the match.

- b. Any advertising under C(1) must be clearly separated from the items described in B.



2. Tracksuits and other clothing in the Technical Area

Advertising may appear on tracksuits, and other items of clothing other than the clothing of a Player, on the field of play during a match in accordance with the size and locations set out in C1.

The advertising carried on the tracksuits and other clothing worn by Players and Club Officials in the Technical Area can be either:

- (i) the same sponsor(s) as worn on the playing kit (home or away strips).
 - (ii) be additional to the sponsors as worn on the playing kit.
 - (iii) a single sponsor that is an official partner of the relevant competition.
3. Clubs may conclude sponsorship arrangements with different companies in respect of advertising permitted under C(1) above for both their 'home' and 'away' strips. Where competition rules allow for a third strip to be worn, this must carry advertising as worn on either the 'home' or 'away' shirt. The advertising must appear in the same form on the clothing of all Players and Club Officials wherever such advertising appears, throughout the entirety of the match.
4. Where a non-member Club wishes to include the name of a sponsor in its Club title, consent must be received in advance from the relevant Affiliated Association and where such consent is given, advertising on behalf of one company only shall be carried on the Club's match shirts, irrespective of the provisions of B (4) and C (1) above. No Full Member Club or Associate Member Club may include the name of a sponsor in its Club title without the consent of The Football Association.
5. No Club in Membership of the Football Conference, the Isthmian League, Northern Premier League or Southern Football League may include the name of a sponsor in its Club title without the consent of the competition and, in the case of a Full Member Club or Associate Member Club, the consent of The Football Association.
6. Clubs with more than one team may conclude separate shirt advertising agreements on behalf of each team.



SPONSOR DESIGNATIONS

Regulation C.1. front of the shirt and sock tie-up

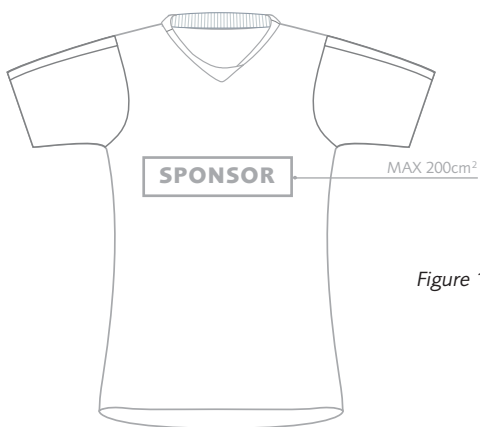


Figure 10

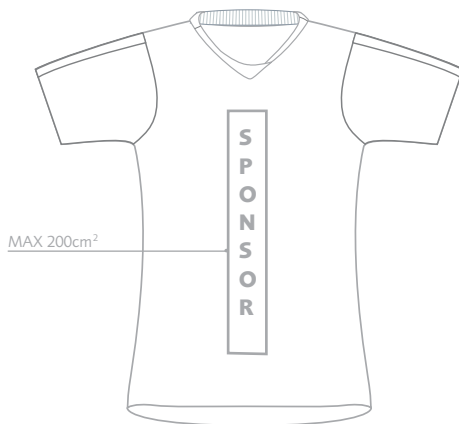
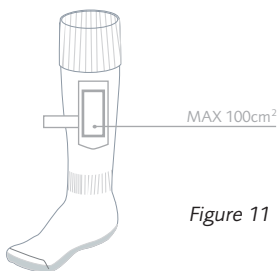


Figure 11



SPONSOR DESIGNATIONS

Regulation C.1. back of the shirt and shorts

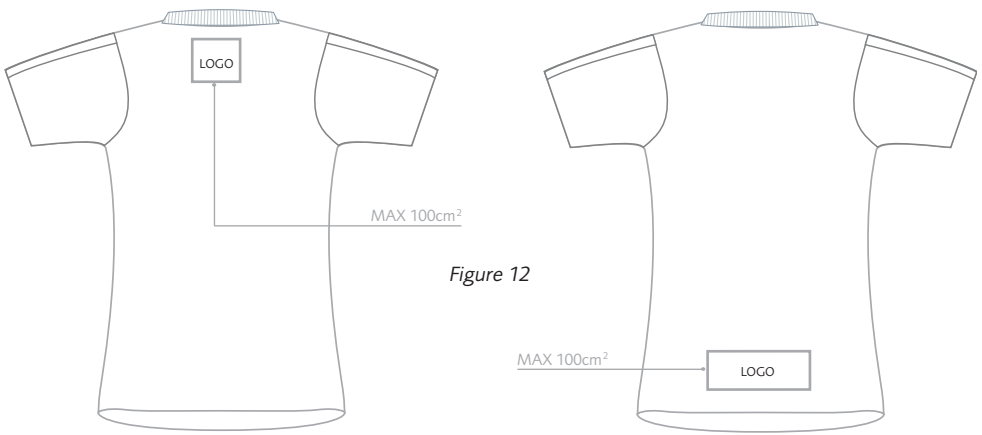


Figure 12

(examples of where a single logo could be located)

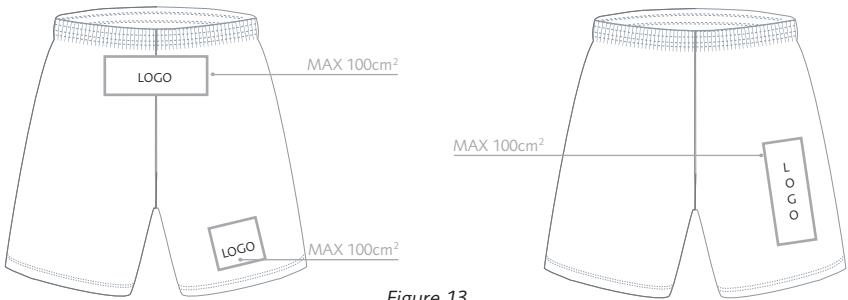


Figure 13

(examples of where a single logo could be located)



MEASUREMENT PROCEDURES

In order to help clubs maximise the space for their sponsors within the regulations, we have provided some practical examples of how The FA would measure sponsor advertising on football club shirts.

If you would like assistance or require clarification of measurements and sizing relevant to your club sponsor, please e-mail or fax a copy of the advert to Angela Taggart, FA Governance Division, angela.taggart@thefa.com, fax: 020 7745 5768, or tel: 020 7745 4768.

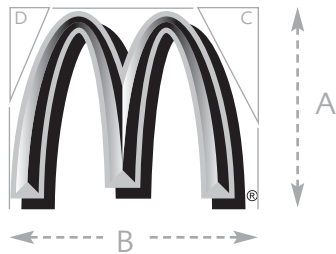
MAXIMUM 200cm²

(A multiplied by B less C + D)



MAXIMUM 200cm²

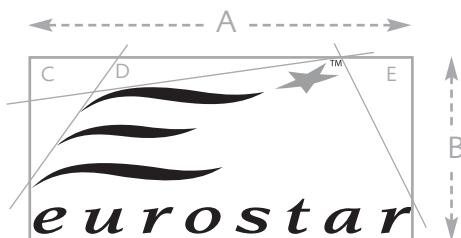
(A multiplied by B less C+D)





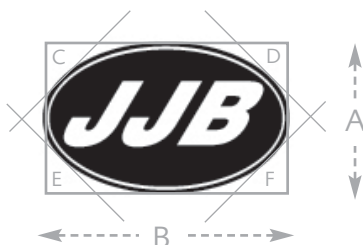
MAXIMUM 250cm²

(A multiplied by B less
C + D + E)



MAXIMUM 200cm²

(A multiplied by B less
C + D + E + F)



MAXIMUM 200cm²

(Circular sponsor advertising will be
measured as πr^2)



Items on kit will be measured according to their smallest geometric form (square, rectangle, triangle, circle etc), and the dimensions calculated using the usual mathematical formula.

To calculate the surface area, the widest part of the items will be measured from edge to edge. Exceptionally, items may be divided into several individual geometric forms for the purpose of calculating the surface area.



D. MATCH OFFICIALS

No advertising of any nature, save as set out below, is permitted on match officials' clothing without the consent of The Association.

The following advertising is permitted:

1. The mark, logo or name of a clothing manufacturer or a combination of the same, may appear:
 - a. Once only on the shirt provided it is an area no greater than 20 square centimetres.
 - b. Once only on the shorts provided it is an area no greater than 12 square centimetres.
 - c. Incorporated into the design of the socks, but must be limited to an area no greater than 12 square centimetres.
2. **Jacquard weave**

A jacquard weave or similar technique shall be allowed providing each is limited to 20 square centimetres, with unlimited repeats being acceptable. The design of such jacquard weave may be the manufacturer's mark, logo or name. The jacquard weave shading shall be restricted to two shades differing from the base colour, using a standard Pantone reference manual.
3. **Sponsor advertising**

Sponsor Advertising in accordance with FIFA Equipment Regulations is permitted only on shirt sleeves and the total surface area of the advertising shall not exceed 200 square centimetres. Any sponsorship contract must be made between the sponsor and The Football Association. Individual Affiliated Associations or Leagues are not permitted to enter into sponsorship contracts.



4. Badges

Match kit shirts may carry the recognised badge of the appropriate competition once only, which must be on either site of the breast pocket. This badge must not exceed an area of 20 square centimetres and, where it contains the registered trademark, trade name or logo of a sponsor of the competition, must be approved by The Association in advance.

In addition to the recognised competition badge the match kit shirt may carry once only on either site of the breast pocket an officially designated badge of FIFA, The Football Association, the relevant Affiliated Association or the Referees' Association (where relevant).

5. Sock Tie-Up

Each sock tie-up may show the name and/or badge of appropriate Affiliated Association or the Referees' Association providing it does not exceed an area of 100 square centimetres. No advertising is allowed (see figure 11, page 14).

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