



MEMORANDUM

January 3, 2018

VIA EMAIL

TO: NCAA Football Conference Commissioners, Head Coaches and Coordinators of Officials.

FROM: Steve Shaw
Secretary-Rules Editor, NCAA Football Rules Committee.

SUBJECT: Rule Regarding Pants – effective in 2018.

Happy New Year to each of you. This update is being provided as a reminder that the NCAA Football Rules Committee passed a rule at its February 2017 meeting that will take effect in the 2018 fall season.

This reminder deals with Rule 1-4-4-d, which requires that a knee pad be worn. **Starting in 2018, the pants and knee pads must cover the knees.**

Additionally, the committee reminds conferences and member institutions of the importance for taking responsibility to ensure that student-athletes are properly equipped for each game. Coaches must see to it that players are wearing equipment as prescribed by the rules. It is especially noticeable when players are not wearing regulation knee pads, tailbone protectors, or pants that come to at least the knees. The wearing of shorts rather than pants is not acceptable. Conferences and their coordinators of officials have front-line responsibility for ensuring that the rules are vigorously enforced.

Thank you for your attention to this information. If you have any questions, please contact NCAA liaison Ty Halpin (thalpin@ncaa.org).

BN:as

cc: Football Rules Committee
Division I Football Competition Committee
Selected NCAA Staff

National Collegiate Athletic Association

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