



Alberta Soccer Association

Governing Body of Soccer in the Province of Alberta

MAY 10, 2011

This ASA policy document is designed to set out a consistent policy with respect to players who suffer from Type 1 diabetes, wearing an insulin pump. All referees are expected to follow these policies in all matches sanctioned by the ASA.

Law 4 states that a player may not use equipment that is dangerous to himself or another player. This is further expanded upon in the Interpretations of the Laws of the Game whereby it is advised that players may use equipment that has the sole purpose of protecting the individual physically providing that it poses no danger to the individual or any other player.

In this case, the insulin pump is designed to ensure that the player maintains a proper blood glucose level during the game. An extended period without infusion of insulin may result in hyperglycemia (excess sugar in the blood).

Before the player will be allowed to participate, the player, parent, or guardian must provide the ASA with a medical clearance to play, with the insulin pump, from the player's treating physician.*

Additionally, the player, parent or guardian must provide the ASA with a signed release, agreeing to accept the risks associated with playing while the insulin pump is connected.*

Prior to the game, should the player be required to wear the pump because of blood glucose levels, the principles of Law 4 must be respected. If the pump is worn, it must be securely affixed and protected by soft, lightweight, padded materials to protect the pump, player, and opponent.

Prior to the match, the referee must be informed of the situation and must be satisfied with the protection offered to the player and opponents. If at any time the referee is concerned with a game situation or action, he may take appropriate steps to mitigate the risk from the wearing of the pump.

The referee or Supervisor of Officials (if one has been appointed to the match/tournament) will make the final decision as to the acceptability of the pump arrangement and protection, and should ensure that the proper clearances as noted above are presented.

****Please keep the medical clearance and note from the player's parents with the coach / manager for all games.***

On Behalf of the ASA Board of Directors

**Richard Adams
Executive Director
Alberta Soccer Association**

APPROVED May 2, 2011 by the ASA BOD