

Feathers in the Hair – Legal? (Updated August 2, 2011)

Is it legal to wear feathers in a player's hair?

There is a new trend of having feathers affixed in the hair for adornment. There are a few different methods being utilized to secure the feather(s) in the hair. The question has arisen as to whether or not the wearing of a feather(s) in the hair would be in compliance with NFHS Volleyball Rules 4-1-5 and 4-1-6. First, the feather must meet all the material and dimension requirements in 4-1-5. If requirements are met, the feather could be worn if it is affixed to the hair by braiding or woven method. It may be worn if affixed by a soft yielding material. However, if the feather(s) is attached with a hard, unyielding or metal material it would not meet the requirements in 4-1-5 or 4-1-6. The metal would be similar to jewelry and is not of a soft material.

Here are two pictures of the metal attachments that are being used to affix the feather, which was otherwise legal, to the hair. These may be different colors to match the hair. These feathers would be illegal due to the metal attachment and the feathers could not be worn while affixed by way of the metal band.

