

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT SUBLIMATED FABRICS

PILLING

Pilling is when small balls of fabric appear on the surface of a garment after coming into contact with a rough surface. This occurs when the fabric lightly catches on the rough surface and the white fibres from the reverse side of the fabric are pulled through onto the printed side. This can also happen during the washing process if the garment rubs against other, rougher fabrics.

Rough surfaces can be velcro, concrete, gym mats - anything where the soft fabric might catch or rub on over time.

WHY DO SUBLIMATED FABRICS “PILL”?

Sublimated fabrics are usually soft and smooth, making them susceptible to catching on rough surfaces. Pilling can be more noticeable on sublimated fabrics as they are printed on one side only, leaving the fabric that is pulling through more visible as it is white. Pilling on sublimated fabrics is more noticeable on dark colours and usually occurs more on the bottom sections of the garment.

HOW CAN WE AVOID NOTICEABLE PILLING?

There are a number of ways you can reduce the likelihood of pilling occurring on your garments - though it is likely over time that some pilling may appear.

- Avoid rough surfaces - avoid sitting on concrete, rough chairs, or
- Avoid wearing rough fabrics with the garment - avoid jeans
- Wash the garments as per instructions from Sylvia P
- Select lighter colours for the back/bottom areas of the garment design

HOW DO I KNOW IF MY GARMENT IS SUBLIMATED?

Simply check the inside of the back of your garment. If it is white on the inside but printed on the outside then it is sublimated. If you have a look and you have a block colour on the inside or it's the same colour as the outside of the garment then it is not sublimated.

WHAT HAPPENS IF PILLING OCCURS?

Due to the nature of the fabric this is an issue we cannot avoid. Sylvia P will not be responsible for replacing or repairing your garment if pilling occurs.

WHAT SHOULD WE TELL OUR CLUB MEMBERS?

Set reasonable expectations with your club members. Like with any soft fabrics, some damage will be inevitable due to the demands of the sport on our athletes. Some pilling is to be expected. Club members should wash their garments according to the instructions and ensure the athletes are not in situations where the fabric will rub on rough surfaces.

