

# **Black Diamonds Uniform Care Instructions**

## **Field Uniforms**

- **Fringe overlay, fringe bottoms, solid top, solid skirt, sleeves, ascot**
  - All field uniforms must be hand washed. DO NOT DRY CLEAN OR MACHINE WASH.
  - Wash each piece separately in cold water with a mild detergent for hand washables (Woolite is very effective as it is low-sudsing, dissolves, and rinses out completely).
  - Use a gentle, rubbing motion around neck and waistbands, under arms, and along zipper. DO NOT scrub sequins as color will come off.
  - Use care around the fringe as it will unravel.
  - Do not leave garments to soak as colors may bleed.
  - Rinse in cold water, and gently squeeze out excess water. Do not wring out fabric.
  - Place garment in a thick towel, and roll up towel to squeeze out excess water.
  - Hang garment to drip dry. Never place in a dryer. Allow time to dry before wearing.
  
- **Belt, belt string, and gauntlets**
  - Do NOT immerse in water.
  - Spot clean with a very small amount of Dawn dish detergent (choose a Dawn that is colorless) and a soft toothbrush.
  - Pat dry with a soft cloth, and allow to air dry.
  
- **Hat**
  - Brush off smudges with a soft toothbrush.
  - ALWAYS keep hat covers on when not performing. It is easier to keep a hat clean than it is to clean it once it's dirty.
  - If you need to pad your hat, feminine pads work great as they also absorb sweat.
  
- **Boots**
  - Gently brush off loose dirt.
  - Wipe with damp cotton cloth. A baby washcloth or piece of old t-shirt works great.
  - For stubborn scuff marks (including grass stains and red marks from the track), GENTLY scrub with damp Mr. Clean Magic Eraser. Scrubbing too hard will damage the leather.
  - Let dry before polishing.
  - Polish with white liquid shoe polish. Kiwi Scuff Cover or Whitener works great. If you need more than one coat, let dry between coats.
  - Not allowing boots to dry after cleaning or between coats of polish will cause permanent wrinkles in the leather.
  - ALWAYS air out boots after performances to allow the inside to dry completely. Set boots upright, and insert a foam flip flop into the calf of each boot, rotating it sideways to keep the calf from closing or bending and blocking airflow.
  - NEVER leave wet boots in your locker overnight!

## Pom Uniform

- **Pom top**
  - Place pom top (inside out) into lingerie bag.
  - Place lingerie bag in washing machine along with two Shout Color Catcher sheets and a mild detergent such as Woolite. The Shout Color Catcher sheets are necessary to absorb color from the black glitter mesh which tends to bleed.
  - Wash on cold on the most delicate setting possible.
  - Immediately after washing, attempt to remove any color bleed stains (generally in the under arm area) by using a soft, white, cotton cloth and isopropyl alcohol. Simply dampen the cloth with the alcohol and gently rub into the gold and white areas where the black glitter mesh has bled. You will see the color transfer onto the white cloth. When no more color transfers onto the cloth, you have done as much as you can.
  - Hang to dry. Never place garment in a dryer.
- **Pom skirt**
  - Place pom skirt in washing machine along with pom top. Pom skirt does NOT need to be in a lingerie bag.
  - Wash on cold on the most delicate setting possible.
  - Hang to dry. Never place garment in a dryer.

