

MINIMUM SUSPENSIONS GUIDANCE 2015/16

MATCH SUSPENSIONS FOR EJECTIONS

Page 1

Players reported by referee for discipline but red card not given, can still be suspended

4/1/15

Two Yellows or Red Card for NON DELIBERATE - VIOLENT FOULS – some examples: - 1 GAME:

Swearing at opponent / Spitting at but not on / Tackle clearly playing the ball with no intent to foul opponent / Non-swearing dissent to official / Attempting a punch, no contact made / Playing the ball, elbows opponent / Pushing opponent (not striking or punching), but not to the ground.

Yellows given for any of the violent or improper conducts below, suspension may be given as red card.

Foul Language Dissent to Match Official – Non-threatening language - 2 GAMES

The fouler the language, the suspension will be increased.

If the swearing is threatening or implied, that is referee abuse, see Match Official Abuse Below.

Match Officials includes Assistant Referees (AR's) doing the lines and MUST be treated with the same respect as Referees doing the middle.

After red card ejection - ADDITIONAL GAMES suspension for each occurrence below shall have accumulative game suspensions added onto the original reason for players discipline ejection.

- Arguing and Refusing to immediately leave the field or bench area / – 1 GAME
- Swearing or insulting game officials, or threatens or implies physical harm, / – 1 or 2 GAMES

MONITORING YELLOW CARDS

Leagues ***MUST*** monitor yellow cards ***received***; players must serve a 2 GAME suspension when they reach a total of six (6) yellow cards. This does not include players receiving two (2) yellows in a game – that counts as a red card.

- For each additional 2 yellows received in a calendar year after the six yellow two game suspension is served – player must sit out an additional MINIMUM 2 GAMES.
- Players who receive a second red card in a calendar year, (includes two yellow ejections) will have an additional 1 or 2 game minimum suspension added onto his second ejection suspension.

Players must be made aware by their TEAM & LEAGUE that violent conduct towards opponents; verbal abuse, harassment, threatening actions on and off the field towards match officials shall not be tolerated and shall be severely disciplined.

Leagues MUST hold their teams, players, managers and non- playing managers/coaches responsible for their behavior.

If referee makes an error and gives a yellow card for any of the red card language or violent conduct incidents listed below, player will be suspended as below.

VIOLENT CONDUCT - More violent actions will receive longer game suspensions

Any violent conduct with no intent to play the ball / – **some examples:** - / Foul with intent to injure /

Tackle with studs up, contact made / High kick, contact made / Pushing opponent to the ground / 2 GAMES

Punching, Head butting, Spitting on a player / – 3 GAMES

Deliberate violent conduct draws blood or serious injury, suspension increased by / – 1 or 2 GAMES

Player on field enters an incident between two players and attacks opponent / – 4 GAMES

Player leaves the bench to enter into a discipline incident on the field / – 6 GAMES

Opponent retaliates after receiving any of above / – 1 or 2 GAMES decrease from above suspensions

MATCH OFFICIAL ABUSE (USSF description of abuse & MINIMUM SUSPENSION) – **3 GAMES**

- **Official abuse** is a verbal statement or physical act not resulting in bodily contact which implies or threatens physical harm to an official or the official's property or equipment.
- **Abuse includes**, but is not limited to the following acts committed upon an official; Using foul or abusive language towards an official that implies or threatens physical harm; spewing any beverage on an official's personal property; or spitting at (but not on) the official.

After red card ejection - ADDITIONAL GAMES suspension for each occurrence below shall have accumulative game suspensions added onto the original reason for player's discipline ejection.

- Arguing and Refusing to immediately leave the field or bench area / – **1 GAME**
- Implies or threatens physical harm, swearing or insulting game officials / – **1 or 2 GAMES**

Game official should mail red carded player passes to the Leagues Designated Discipline Representative, and (**Not the Discipline Chairman**). League Representative must hold pass until they receive notification by **e-mail** of player's suspension from the CSSA Discipline Chairman. Leagues are responsible that players serve their **FULL SUSPENSION**, even if they do not receive player pass from game official.

- Only official league or state cup scheduled games played count towards suspension. Postponed, cancelled or forfeited games and friendly tournaments **do not count**.
- In the case of players registered to play in multiple leagues, although the CSSA suspension can be served across leagues, a player may NOT sign up to play in another league while under suspension.
- **Player(s) CANNOT PLAY in another league** he/she is registered with while under CSSA suspension. Player CAN ONLY PLAY IN ANOTHER LEAGUE **after he/she has completed the full game suspensions issued by the CSSA Discipline Chairman**. CSSA game suspensions are from ALL soccer in all leagues.
- An Organization Member who chooses to adjudicate a suspension related matter **may NOT provide a shorter period of suspension than that of the CSSA Discipline Chairman**, however, if circumstances warrant, they (league) may provide a longer period of suspension **and or fines** within that member's League **Rules**.

Where a player's CSSA's suspension is served over two separate leagues, the league where the suspension incident did not take place must provide proof to the Discipline Chairman issuing the suspension that the player did indeed serve the suspension in this league. A one (1) game suspension MUST be served in the league where the suspension was issued.

- If a player is found to have played while under suspension, **an additional minimum six (6) months suspension or more** will be given to the player, banning him/her from **all soccer activities, including coaching or refereeing**. He/she may also be fined by the CSSA, and if fined, player cannot play until the fine amount is received by the CSSA. All CSSA Leagues, CJSA and CSRP will be notified of the player's suspension from ALL SOCCER ACTIVITIES.

MATCH OFFICIAL ASSAULT (USSF description of referee assault) Suspensions are from date of assault.

Game official assault is an intentional act of physical violence at or upon an official. For purposes of this policy, "intentional act" shall mean an act intended to bring about a result which will invade the interest of another in a way that is socially unacceptable. Unintended consequences of the act are irrelevant.

- **ASSAULT INCLUDES**, but is not limited to the following acts committed upon an official: hitting; kicking, punching, choking, spitting on, grabbing or bodily running into an official; head butting; damaging the official's uniform or personal property, i.e. car, equipment, etc., a hearing will be held for the player.

The Person committing the match official assault must be suspended as follows:

- For a minor or slight touching of the referee or the referee's uniform or personal property; the act of kicking or throwing any object at an official that could inflict injury, but misses official; at least **three (3) months suspension (6 – 8 GAMES MINIMUM)**.
- For any other minor physical assault, at least **six (6) MONTHS (12 GAMES MINIMUM)**.
- Assaults committed by an adult and the official is 17 years of age or younger, at least **3 YEARS**; or
- For an assault when serious injuries are inflicted, at least **FIVE (5) YEARS**.
- An Organization Member adjudicating the matter **may not provide a shorter period of suspension**, however, if circumstances warrant, may provide a longer period of suspension.
- Red carded player passes for only **match official assault**, should be mailed by the match official to the **CSSA Discipline Chairman**, who will hold the pass until the player receives a discipline hearing.
- Player will receive a hearing with the State Discipline Committee within thirty (30) days of receipt of verification of the abuse or assault. If player elects not to attend the hearing, the Discipline Committee will rule on the reported assault using the game officials report and verbal communication with the officials.
- Player may appeal to the Appeals Committee by following the procedures of Federation Bylaw 705 within ten (10) days of receipt of the decision of the Organization Member.

A decision rendered by an Organization Member (except a Professional League Member) from which an appeal is taken is not suspended pending the final decision of the appeals committee unless the Committee otherwise orders. That decision may be upheld, reversed, or reversed and remanded.

******REMINDER – All suspensions are MINIMUMS******