



2024 and 2025 Operational Procedures

Approved by the Ontario Soccer Board of Directors

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Ontario Soccer Operational Procedures are the specific processes used to implement the policies of the organization in its day-to-day operations and administer soccer Province-wide. The content in the Operational Procedures along with external linked manuals, documents and forms, are to be followed by all registered members and organizations under the Association.

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SECTION 1 – GOVERNING DOCUMENTS

PROCEDURE 1.0 – DEFINITIONS

- 1.1 **Abuse** - unfair, cruel, or violent treatment of someone, often with rude and offensive remarks.
- 1.2 **Acceptable Proof of Age** shall mean a birth certificate, passport, driver's licence, Ontario Photo health card, baptismal certificate and any other document which is acceptable to Ontario Soccer.
- 1.3 **Administrative or Financial Directives of a Governing Organization** shall mean the directives placed in the Governing Organization's By-Laws or policies that define the administrative or financial criteria that a member must meet in order to be declared to be "In Good Standing" at a general meeting of the Governing Organization.
- 1.4 **Administrative or Financial Directives of Ontario Soccer** shall mean that each member organization is required to pay each account for which payment to Ontario Soccer is overdue by 30 or more days prior to SMM or AMM meetings of Ontario Soccer.
- 1.5 **Administrator** shall mean an individual who is registered with Ontario Soccer to be responsible for one or more of the functions required to operate a Governing Organization.
- 1.6 **Affiliate Organization** shall mean any Ontario Soccer District Association, League, Club, or Registered Organization.
- 1.7 **Affiliation** shall mean the annual process that an individual or organization shall complete with their Governing Organization.
- 1.8 **Appeal** shall mean the process followed in accordance with Governing Documents when an individual or organization wishes to challenge a decision of a Governing Organization.
- 1.9 **Appellant** shall mean the individual or organization appealing a decision of a Governing Organization.
- 1.10 **Appeals Panel** shall mean a group of individuals either appointed or elected by a Governing Organization to consider all requests for "Leave to Appeal".
- 1.11 **Approved by the Membership** shall mean the adoption of a motion by a majority of the votes cast by delegates present at a General Meeting.
- 1.12 **Assault**: an assault is the illegal act of causing physical harm or unwanted physical contact to another person, or, in some legal definitions, the threat or attempt to do so.
- 1.13 **Auditor** shall mean the organization that annually audits the accounts of a Governing Organization and ascertains the correctness of the Financial Statement of a Governing Organization.
- 1.14 **Canada Soccer, or CS**, shall mean Canada Soccer which is the Governing Organization of soccer in Canada.
- 1.15 **Case Manager** shall mean a Registrant who is responsible for the administration of Discipline/Appeals and Complaints at the District/Club level. The Case Manager must have Discipline and Appeals Certification. The Case Manager is not a Discipline/Appeals panel member.
- 1.16 **Club** is a Governing Organization that is affiliated to, and under the jurisdiction of a District Association and is established and operates in accordance with Operational Procedure Section 3.0 Organizations, Procedure 6.0 Club; is a registered organization that registers all Players, Team Officials and Administrators of their organization and organizes teams. A not-for-profit Club has an elected Board of Directors. A for-profit Club, may have a Board of Directors or shareholders.
- A **Youth Club** may operate as either a registered not-for-profit or for-profit entity, but must be incorporated. The Club is the Governing Organization whose primary, long-term objective is to provide Players with development and training through the provision of necessary training facilities and infrastructure. Youth Clubs shall apply for a level of Canada Soccer Club Licensing as mandated by Canada Soccer.



A **Senior Club** may operate as a registered not-for profit or for-profit entity and is not required to be incorporated.

- 1.17 Club Licensing** refers to the organizational development program, in accordance with Canada Soccer's Rules and Regulations whose objectives are to set clearly defined standards and expectations for Clubs, drive change in the soccer system, raise the level of all soccer organizations, and recognize excellence in the soccer community.
- 1.18 Coach** shall mean any registered person acting in the capacity of a Coach appointed by Ontario Soccer, District Association, Club or any other Ontario Soccer registered organization to coach a team or programs run by that organization, including any assistant or specialist Coaches.
- 1.19 Complainant** shall mean the Party alleging an infraction.
- 1.20 Concurrent Sentence** shall mean multiple suspensions served at the same time.
- 1.21 CONCACAF** shall mean the Confederation of North and Central American and Caribbean Associations of Football; and is a Confederation of the FIFA.
- 1.22 Conflict of Interest** shall mean a situation in which a person is in a position to derive personal benefit from actions or decisions made in their official capacity.
- 1.23 Corporate Responsibilities** shall apply to Directors or shareholders of a registered Governing Organization. Ensuring minutes of meetings of their Governing Organization. The responsibilities must align with the Corporations Act of Ontario.
- 1.24 Co-Respondent** shall mean the Governing Organization which made a discipline or appeal decision which has been upheld on appeal, and where the Appellant is then appealing again to a higher level.
- 1.25 Days** shall mean total days, irrespective of weekends or holidays, but not including the date of the meeting, hearing or event in question or the date by which a response if any is required.
- 1.26 Delegate** shall mean an individual qualified to take part at a Members Meeting and cast one or more of the votes a member is entitled to at that meeting.
- 1.27 Digital Registration System** shall mean the electronic registration system used by Ontario Soccer to register District Associations, Clubs, Leagues, Players, Coaches, Match Officials and Administrators.
- 1.28 Directly Affected by a Decision** shall mean:
- a) Any Registrant or Registered Organization against whom a decision has been made,
 - b) The Accused in the Discipline Hearing, and
 - c) The Victim of a reported misconduct that had been made against an accused.
- 1.29 Director** shall mean a person who is elected or appointed to serve in a position on the Board of Directors of a Governing Organization and will automatically be deemed to be registered as an Administrator of that Governing Organization.
- 1.30 Discipline Panel** shall mean a group consisting of a minimum of three persons, one of which is a certified discipline Chair, appointed by a Case Manager on behalf of a Governing Organization to hear a case in accordance with Discipline and Appeals Operating Procedures.
- 1.31 District** shall mean a distinct geographic area within the province of Ontario based on boundaries approved by Ontario Soccer Board of Directors.
- 1.32 District Association** shall mean the Governing Organization in each District; affiliated to, and under the jurisdiction of Ontario Soccer; consisting of the Clubs which are affiliated to it, and recognized by it, as controlling soccer in their respective Clubs.
- 1.33 Electronic Communication or Recording Equipment** shall mean any mobile, handheld equipment (e.g., microphone, headphone, earpiece, mobile phone/smartphone, smartwatch, tablet, laptop, cameras).



- 1.34 Employee** shall mean a person who:
- a) Performs work and/or services for an employer for wages; and
 - b) Works for regular pay, with income taxes, unemployment insurance premiums and government pension plan contributions withheld by the employer; and
 - c) May have a job description; participate in the employer's benefits and private pension program; or a written employment agreement with the employer; and
 - d) Provides tasks which are integral to the day-to-day business of the employer; and
 - e) Is issued a T4 slip from the employer.
- 1.35 Exhibition Game** shall mean a single sanctioned game arranged between teams of registered Players, which is which is not a scheduled League game, play-off game, cup game, tournament game or festival game.
- 1.36 Fees Retained** shall mean that portion of the membership fees paid during the Fiscal period of the Governing Organization and retained by that Governing Organization.
- 1.37 Festival** shall mean a series of games played by Under-12 or younger age groups in accordance with LTPD principles.
- 1.38 FIFA** shall mean the Fédération Internationale de Football Association, which is the Governing Organization of soccer in the world.
- 1.39 Financial Interest** shall mean where a Director may derive a personal profit from any activity of the Governing Organization of which he or she is a Director.
- 1.40 Focus Group** shall mean a collection of individuals from the applicable membership, chosen to review and provide feedback to the development or revision of Operational Procedures, Programs, or other subject matters.
- 1.41 Full Team Identification** shall mean the provision of the team's name, team classification, age classification, gender and team registration number.
- 1.42 Futsal** is a game played between two teams of five Players each, one of whom is the goalkeeper. Unlimited substitutions are permitted, while the ball is in play or out of play. The game is played on a hard-court surface with lines. The Futsal ball requirements shall be in accordance with Law 2 of the FIFA Futsal Laws of The Game.
- 1.43 Game Related Changes** are defined as material changes to Operational Procedures that affect matters connected to the game of soccer; including but not limited to:
- a) The rules of the game;
 - b) Incidents that occur prior, during, or after the game;
 - c) The actions or activities of Registrants and Representatives.
- 1.44 Game Types** shall mean competition based on specific playing formats, equipment, facilities and rules of the game. Please see Section 6.0 Game Types for further information.
- 1.45 Gender Equity** shall mean the allocation of resources, benefits, opportunities and entitlements (including power) associated with soccer, fairly and without discrimination on the basis of sex. Gender Equity also means redressing identified imbalances.
- 1.46 Governing Organization** shall mean that Registered Organization which, in the context of the rule being interpreted, is the organization delegated to act and is either an organization under whose jurisdiction Ontario Soccer operates, Ontario Soccer, a District Association, a League or a Club.
- 1.47 Governance Position** shall mean any individual elected or appointed by a Governing Organization, who is in a position of authority and is involved in any way in a decision-making process.
- 1.48 Grassroots Standards (U4-U12)** is a document developed and recommended by Ontario Soccer's Player Development Program in alignment with Canada Soccer and replaces all previous versions of the "Ontario Soccer Player Matrix".



- 1.49 Harassment** shall mean any comment, conduct, or gesture directed toward an individual or group of individuals, which is insulting, intimidating, humiliating, malicious, degrading or offensive. Harassment means inappropriately exerting power over another person. Harassment occurs along a continuum that ranges from mild conduct such as gestures or commands to conduct which may be physical, forceful, and violent. In certain forms, harassment may be a criminal offense.
- 1.50 Host** shall mean a Governing Organization responsible for a Competition.
- 1.51 Indoor Facility/Operators is/are** a predetermined area or place to host Ontario Soccer sanctioned indoor youth and/or adult matches and events.
- 1.52 Individuals** refers to all categories defined in the Ontario Soccer By-Laws, or the Affiliate Organizations By-Laws, as well as all individuals employed by, or engaged in activities with, Ontario Soccer or their Affiliate Organizations including but not limited to; Administrator, Coach, Director, Employee, Player, Registered Team, Registrant, Team Official, Match Official, Volunteer, Board of Director, Spectator, parent/guardian or representatives.
- 1.53 Ineligible Player** shall mean a Registrant or Non-Registrant of Ontario Soccer who participated in a soccer activity in which they were not eligible to participate in accordance with **Section 12.0 Discipline Procedure 9.11.2.**
- 1.54 Knowingly** shall mean deliberately or consciously.
- 1.55 Leave to Appeal** shall mean the process that a party Directly Affected by a Decision, uses to request that a decision by a Governing Organization be reviewed by a higher-level Governing Organization.
- 1.56 Long Term Player Development**, also known as LTPD, shall mean the Canada Soccer model designed to, and originally prescribed by Sport for Life, now optimized for soccer, to promote Player-centric, age-appropriate development to support lifelong participation and wellness through soccer.
- 1.57 Mandatory Penalty** shall mean the fixed or set penalty specified for certain misconduct types in Discipline Policies and that must be imposed by a Discipline Hearing/Review Panel after a guilty finding for those misconduct types.
- 1.58 Mass Confrontation** shall mean a physical confrontation involving three or more Registrants.
- 1.59 Match Official** shall mean an individual who is either registered with Ontario Soccer to officiate sanctioned competitions, or an individual who officiates a game in the absence of the appointed referee; a Club Assistant Referee accepted by the Match Official; or a person serving as the "Official Timekeeper" at an Indoor or Futsal game.
- 1.60 Match Official Assault** shall mean deliberate physical contact or attempted physical contact, any type of threats or threatening action, any form of violent conduct or attempted violent conduct towards a Match Official.
- 1.61 Mental Abuse** (also referred to as psychological abuse) is the use of threats, verbal insults, and other more subtle tactics to control a person's way of thinking.
- 1.62 Moral Turpitude** shall mean any offences found in [Part V of the Criminal Code of Canada \(Sexual Offences, Public Morals, and Disorderly Conduct\)](#).
- 1.63 New Facts** shall mean, in the context of an Appeal, any fact that was in existence at the time of the hearing, however, was not produced when the original decision was made or that could not be discovered by due diligence.
- 1.64 Non-Game Related Changes** are defined as changes that made to any Operational Procedure so long as the change does not have a material effect on the game of soccer.
- 1.65 Not In Good Standing** shall mean a registered individual and/or member organization shall be deemed Not in Good Standing if their membership status is either suspended or expelled, if they have overdue unpaid



fees, dues or other obligations to their Governing Organization or to a sanctioned member and/or competition.

- 1.66 Obligation of Loyalty** shall mean where a Director through their position, or on account of some other significant involvement, with another corporation or organization has a conflict or apparent conflict with their required loyalty to the Governing Organization of which they are in a Governance Position.
- 1.67 Ontario Soccer** shall mean Ontario Soccer, the official Governing Organization of soccer in the province of Ontario and Member Association of Canada Soccer.
- 1.68 Party** refers to the complainant or respondent of a complaint.
- 1.69 Perceived Conflict of Interest** shall mean a reasonable perception by an informed person that a conflict-of-interest situation exists or may exist.
- 1.70 Person** shall mean any family member, friend, customer, client, sponsor, colleague or legal person.
- 1.71 Player** shall mean an individual who is permitted, when registered with Ontario Soccer, in accordance with Governing Documents, to play for a Registered Team in a Sanctioned Competition.
- 1.72 Player Movement Agreement** shall mean a document signed by two Clubs under which they agree to 'play up' Players from a team of one Club to a team of the other Club in accordance with the provisions of Ontario Soccer Operational Procedures.
- 1.73 Policy** shall mean a position statement adopted by the Board of Directors to define the intent of Ontario Soccer's By-Laws, or to define an established course of action or behaviour that must be followed.
- 1.74 Pro-Am** shall mean a League level involving both professional and amateur registered Player.
- 1.75 Probationary Sentence** – relating to a period of time when an individual is not to commit any more offenses.
- 1.76 Procedure** shall mean the explicit published guidelines or details required to implement some aspects of a Policy or to cover matters related to administration of the game managed by Ontario Soccer.
- 1.77 Published Rule** shall mean a Statute, By-Law, Rule, Regulation, Policy, Procedure, or Law that is adopted by a Governing Organization.
- 1.78 Recorded Payment** shall mean an EFT, cheque or money order made payable to a Governing Organization.
- 1.79 Registered** shall mean a current record exists for a named individual or organization named in the Ontario Soccer digital registration system of a registered Governing Organization.
- 1.80 Registered Organization** shall mean an organization which registers with Ontario Soccer, as a District Association, League, or Club.
- 1.81 Registered Team** shall mean a group of registered Players who have been assigned to a roster by its Governing Organization in order to play in Sanctioned Competition.
- 1.82 Registrant** shall mean an individual registered with Ontario Soccer, as well as an individual engaged in authorized activities with Ontario Soccer or a Registered Organization.
- 1.83 Registrar** shall mean the person(s) authorized by a Governing Organization to validate the registration of all its participants on its teams.
- 1.84 Registration Form** shall mean the form which meets Ontario Soccer minimum requirements and is provided by a Governing Organization either in hard copy or digital form.
- 1.85 Representatives** shall mean individuals employed by, or engaged in activities on behalf of, Ontario Soccer, or Registered Organizations, including: Administrators, Coaches, Directors, Employees, Match Officials, Players, Registrants, Registrars, Team Officials, Contractors, Volunteers, Managers, Committee Members, and Officers.



- 1.86 Respondent** shall mean the Governing Organization which made the decision, which is being appealed at a given Appeal Hearing or the alleged infracting party.
- 1.87 Sanctioned Organization** shall mean an active soccer organization that is a registered member of Ontario Soccer or with a member organization.
- 1.88 Sanctioned Competition** shall mean a competition which has obtained the approval of the required Governing Organization(s) in accordance with Governing Documents.
- 1.89 Sanctioned Participation** shall mean that a Registered Team has obtained the approval of the required Governing Organization(s) to participate in a sanctioned competition.
- 1.90 Soccer Related Activity** shall mean any, or all, of the following acts or actions by a Player, Team Official, Match Official, Administrator or Director including, but not limited to:
- a) Coaching Players at games and practices, managing, playing, practising, officiating, or
 - b) Acting as an Administrator in any activity that falls under the jurisdiction of Ontario Soccer by any party either in person or by proxy, or
 - c) Representing their applicable Governing Organization at another Governing Organization's meetings or voting at such meetings, or
 - d) Managing or participating in an Ontario Soccer administered program;
- Soccer Related Activity** does not apply to the following:
- a) Attending a Discipline Hearing as an accused, or
 - b) Attending an Appeal Hearing (provided that the appeal being made is against her/his suspension from all soccer related activity), or
 - c) A Director of an incorporated organization performing corporate responsibilities related to that corporation, or
 - d) An employee performing her/his employee responsibilities.
- 1.91 Statement of Claim** shall mean a document filed with the court that sets out the claims of the other party (plaintiff) indicating what you (defendant) may owe them and why they are making the claim. The statement of claim starts legal proceedings.
- 1.92 Subject Matter Group** shall mean a group of Subject Matter Experts from Ontario Soccer department staff and/or Operational Committees chosen to develop and review Ontario Soccer Operational Procedures in designated sections.
- 1.93 Suspended Sentence** - the defendant will serve a period of probation and receive a guilty verdict.
- 1.95 Team Official** shall mean anyone registered to a team as a Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Team Manager, Assistant Manager, or Club Head Coach, Technical Director or Technical Staff (such as a Goalkeeper Coach, Athletic Therapist etc.).
- 1.96 Team Position Status** shall mean that a Club is entitled to operate a team in a division of a League in accordance with the provisions of Ontario Soccer Policies on 'Team Movement.'
- 1.97 Tournament** shall mean a series of games involving Under-13 or older aged teams between a minimum of 4 teams participating and played within seven (7) consecutive days or over no more than three (3) weekends during a playing season.
- 1.98 Transgender Player:** For the purpose of registration on gender-based amateur teams, a Player may register with the gender team with which the Player identifies.
- 1.99 Unsanctioned Event** shall mean any form of competition which does not have the authoritative permission or approval of the applicable Governing Organization.
- 1.100 Unsanctioned Organization** shall mean an organization that is not a member of Ontario Soccer or its member organizations.



- 1.101 Valid Photograph** shall mean a photo of the person being registered and must be an accurate impression of the person being represented as per the requirements in the Registration Operational Procedures.
- 1.102 Victim** shall mean any Registrant or Registered Organization who/which has suffered injury or harm as a result of another Registrant's or Registered Organization's actions.
- 1.103 Violent Conduct** is when a Player uses or attempts to use excessive force or brutality against an opponent when not challenging for the ball, or against a team-mate, Team Official, Match Official, spectator or any other person, regardless of whether contact is made.
- 1.104 Workplace** refers to any place where business or work-related activities are conducted. Workplaces include, but are not limited to, the Ontario Soccer or Affiliate Organizations' office, work-related social functions, work assignments outside the office, work-related travel, and work-related conferences or training sessions.
- 1.105 Youth Aged Match Official** shall mean a registered Match Official under the age of 18, who is appointed to officiate, or is officiating, a game in a youth or grassroots age division.



SECTION 12 - DISCIPLINE

PROCEDURE 1.0 - WHO CAN BE DISCIPLINED?

- 1.1 Discipline action may only be taken against a Registrant or Registered Organization of Ontario Soccer for misconduct occurring at the time of the incident and cannot be retroactively charged for incidents prior to registration of such person or organization.
- 1.2 Notwithstanding Procedure 1.1 any person acting as a Team Official, Administrator or Match Official shall be considered to be a Registrant of Ontario Soccer regardless of whether he/she has registered to do so.
- 1.3 Sanctioned member organizations shall be held responsible for any misconduct by their unregistered supporters, spectators and participants. Failure to enforce their organization's Code of Conduct, and/or Policies & Procedures may (or shall) result in discipline by their governing body.

PROCEDURE 2.0 - REPORTING MISCONDUCT

- 2.1 A Registrant and/or Registered Organization is accused of an offence as identified in the Standard Penalties for Misconduct in Operational Procedure 9.0 and is subject to discipline when:
 - a) A Match Official reports an offence to the applicable Governing Organization electronically or by hardcopy.
 - b) A Registrant or third party submits a written complaint and all supporting evidence and documentation that supports the complaint (for example: all documents, witness statements, etc.) to a Governing Organization that an offence has been committed. Action shall only be taken if the Complainant willingly agrees to act as a witness. In cases of serious misconduct, disciplinary action may be taken even if the Referee and the Assistant Referees did not see the event in question and do not submit a report;
 - c) A Governing Organization submits a written misconduct report and all supporting evidence and documentation that supports the report (for example: all documents, witness statements, etc.) to itself. In this scenario, the Governing Organization is required to have a representative (not including a member of its Discipline Hearing Panel) present the evidence at the hearing in order for action to be taken; Therefore, the Governing Organization becomes/is the complainant.
 - d) A report submitted by a Match Official will be subject to Discipline By Hearing or Discipline By Review. A report submitted by a Governing Organization will be subject to Discipline By Hearing. A report submitted by a Registrant or Third Party may be subject to Discipline Hearing if investigation warrants further action.
 - e) In the event that two or more complaints or misconduct reports relate to the same incident, all reports and complaints will be heard simultaneously, and all reports will be considered by the Discipline Hearing Panel, providing that each report author acts as a witness at the hearing with the exception of a Match Official who is not required to attend the hearing. The Panel may exclude evidence or testimony that is unduly repetitious.
- 2.2 **The Report**
 - 2.2.1 Misconduct must be reported, in writing, to the appropriate Governing Organization under whose jurisdiction the misconduct applies (as per Procedure 3.0) and with which an accused party is either registered or with which the Club of the accused is affiliated. The report shall be written in the English language and include all details of the incident.
 - 2.2.2 If a report is judged to be an incomplete report or if a report is not written in the English language, the charge(s) shall not be dismissed. The Discipline Hearing/Review Panel shall adjourn the hearing/review meeting and require the Match Official (or other person in accordance with Procedure 2.1) to either re-submit a complete report in the English language or attend a rescheduled hearing/review meeting to clarify



the report submitted. Those parties required to attend the original hearing shall be required to be present at the subsequent hearing.

- 2.2.3** Once submitted, a Registrant may not withdraw a report and the charge(s) shall not be dismissed. A Registrant wishing to change a report must attend the Discipline Hearing and provide testimony regarding the reason for changing the report.

2.3 Statute of Limitations

- 2.3.1** The written Report/complaint must be submitted to the appropriate Governing Organization within sixty (60) days of the occurrence of the alleged misconduct and the organization must commence disciplinary action within thirty (30) days after receipt of the written report.

- 2.3.2** Any reported misconduct that is made directly to Ontario Soccer may be acted upon by Ontario Soccer without consideration of the time-lines specified in Procedure 2.3.1

- 2.3.3** If the receiving Governing Organization fails to respond in writing to any alleged misconduct prior to 30 days, the complainant may request in writing within 5 days, the next above Governing Organization to review the alleged misconduct and direct to be handled as deemed appropriate.

- 2.3.4** Failure to observe time-lines defined in these Procedures shall render any disciplinary action taken after the expiration of the time, null and void, with the exception of Procedure 2.3.2.

2.4 Match Official Assault

- 2.4.1** In the case of a Match Official Assault, the Match Official shall provide written notification and a preliminary report of the assault to the District Association in which he/she resides, Ontario Soccer and the League within 48 hours of the assault. The Match Official must then complete and submit a Match Official Assault Report within 5 days of the alleged assault to the District Association in which he/she resides as well as to Ontario Soccer and the League. The applicable District Association is responsible for ensuring all parties involved receive this information. Approval to extend timelines listed in this procedure are at the discretion of Ontario Soccer only.

2.5 Misconduct by a Match Official

- 2.5.1** A written report/complaint about a Match Official must be reported to the appropriate District Association. Misconduct by a Match Official in a competition organized by Ontario Soccer shall be handled by Ontario Soccer

- 2.5.2** If a person, registered as a Match Official, Team Official, Administrator, or Player is accused of misconduct while acting in another of the mentioned positions, they shall be charged in the capacity in which they were acting when the incident occurred

2.6 Misconduct at a Tournament

- 2.6.1** With the exception of reports pertaining to Match Official assault, a Match Official is required to complete a dismissal report, or special incident report respectively for each dismissal, or special incident and a "list of cautions report" and submit such report(s) immediately to the Governing Organization under whose authority the game was held.

PROCEDURE 3.0 – JURISDICTION

- 3.1** Unless the Procedure is identified as being applicable only to a specific jurisdiction, all the Procedures in this document are applicable to Ontario Soccer and all Governing Organizations and individuals registered with Ontario Soccer, including non-registrants acting in the capacity of Team Official, Administrator, or Match Official.



3.2 Jurisdiction Levels

All misconduct occurring in competition organized by Ontario Soccer shall fall under the jurisdiction of Ontario Soccer, unless otherwise delegated.

3.2.1 Ontario Soccer reserves the right to intervene in matters of discipline at all jurisdiction levels where deemed necessary and appropriate.

3.2.2 All misconduct types relating to registration of Players, Team Officials & Club Administrators falls under the jurisdiction of the Governing Body responsible for the validation of the registrations. A governing body cannot ignore non-registration or condone it. Non-registration of Players/Coaches/teams is a Discipline Offence which must lead to appropriate Discipline charges.

3.2.3 All misconduct by a Match Official shall be handled under the jurisdiction of the District Association in which the Match Official resides. All applicable discipline resulting in suspension of a Match Official shall be served under the jurisdiction of Ontario Soccer.

3.2.4 All misconduct types relating to registration of Match Officials and Administrators of

- a) Ontario Soccer
- b) District Associations
- c) Senior Provincial, Regional and (if governed by Ontario Soccer) District Competitive
- d) Youth Provincial, Regional and (if governed by Ontario Soccer) District Competitive

Fall under the jurisdiction of Ontario Soccer.

3.2.5 Misconduct Types by the same person or the same organization occurring during the same game incident or a related incident shall be dealt with by one jurisdiction only. In a game involving several misconduct types by the same person or same organization and where those misconduct types would normally fall under two or more jurisdictional levels, the case shall be handled by the higher-level Governing Organization. Charges and penalties specific to a Governing Organization shall be heard on behalf of that Governing Organization, by the jurisdiction level hearing the cases.

3.3 Misconduct Directed towards a Match Official

3.3.1 In cases of Match Official Assault Ontario Soccer Discipline Hearing Panel shall be appointed by the District Association with which the accused is registered or with which the Club of the accused is affiliated. The District Association's Discipline Hearing Panel shall act as Ontario Soccer's Discipline Hearing Panel in the hearing of such cases.

3.3.2 For all other Misconduct Types directed at a Match Official the jurisdiction of discipline shall be:

- a) If the misconduct occurred during a game in a Provincial, Regional, District Competitive or District Recreational League then, the appropriate League shall have jurisdiction to handle any disciplinary action.
- b) For all other Misconduct directed at the Match Official discipline shall be dealt with by the District Association with which the accused is registered or with which the Club of the accused is affiliated. A District Association may delegate such cases to the District Competitive League (if governed by the District Association), District Recreational League or Local League in which the offence occurred provided such delegation is stated in their Governing Documents.

3.4 Delegation of Misconduct Jurisdiction

3.4.1 Where permitted, a Governing Organization may be delegated, by its Governing Organization, the responsibility for establishing a Discipline Hearing Panel to deal with one or more Misconduct Types. This responsibility may be revoked at any time by the higher Governing Organization.

3.4.2 District Associations may delegate certain game related misconduct types to:



- a) Senior District Competitive Leagues and Youth District Competitive Leagues (governed by District Association)
- b) Senior District Recreational Leagues and Youth District Recreational Leagues
- c) Clubs, Senior Local Leagues and Youth Local Leagues

3.5 Referral of Misconduct Cases

- 3.5.1** A Governing Organization which has jurisdiction over a specific misconduct category may refer a misconduct incident to its higher Governing Organization. If the higher Governing Organization determines that the referral is valid, it shall handle the case. If the higher Governing Organization determines that the referral is not valid, the case shall be handled by the Governing Organization with jurisdiction for that misconduct type
- 3.5.2** Misconduct occurring outside the normal jurisdiction such as out of province games or tournaments shall be referred to the appropriate Governing Organization for action.
- 3.5.3** Anytime a Governing Organization refers a discipline case to a higher Governing Organization, the case becomes a case of that higher Governing Organization, which must report back the findings and decisions to the referring Governing Organization within 30 days or upon completion of the discipline process.

PROCEDURE 4.0 - RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 4.1** Ontario Soccer may, without notice, audit any organization who has been delegated the responsibility to administer discipline to ensure full compliance with these Procedures. If an organization fails to administer discipline in accordance with these Procedures Ontario Soccer has the right to:
- a) Intervene to correct the problem
 - b) Withdraw the delegation to administer discipline; and
 - c) Subject the organization to discipline
- 4.2** Every Club is responsible for the actions of its Players, Team Officials, Administrators and spectators.
- 4.3** In all cases of mistaken identity of an accused Player, Team Official or Administrator caused as a result of a team sheet error or other irregularities, the responsible Club shall properly identify the offending party involved. Failure to do so will result in a charge under Misconduct Type 5.69
- 4.3.1** In the event that the Match Official incorrectly identifies the person responsible for the reported misconduct and if the Club correctly identifies the offending party, then both parties together with the Match Official shall be required to attend the hearing for the Match Official to identify the correct person if so required by the Discipline Hearing Panel.
- 4.4** Registered District Associations, Leagues and Clubs shall ensure that their disciplinary rules, regulations and policies are consistent and do not conflict with those published by Ontario Soccer.
- 4.5** Accused parties must appear at a Hearing at their own expense.
- 4.6** All parties directly affected by a discipline decision must receive a written copy of the decision and also the specific "Rights of Appeal Information," including:
- a) The name and address of the organization to which the Appeal must be sent.
 - b) The amount of the appeal fee
 - c) The criteria for the grounds for appeal
 - d) Which organizations must receive a copy of the appeal
 - e) The method of delivery for both the appeal and the fee

The time-lines for appealing a decision shall only go into effect after the affected party has received a written copy of both the decision and the "Rights of Appeal Information"



- 4.7 Except for discipline decisions rendered under the Discipline By Review (DBR) system, any party directly affected by a decision has the right to appeal that decision. The discipline decision shall remain in effect pending the result of the appeal.
- 4.8 A Registrant is entitled to know for which offence they have been dismissed from a game, and may request from their Governing Organization a copy of the misconduct report within forty-eight (48) hours of the dismissal so that the Registrant(s) upon receiving the report will have seventy (72) hours to request a hearing if permitted as per Procedure 5.2.6.
- 4.9 Any party directly affected by a decision shall receive a copy of the "Decision." The decision will be considered a matter of public record and a copy of the decision together with the findings will be provided to each of the affected parties, but the minutes of the hearing may only be given to the Governing Organization.

PROCEDURE 5.0 - DISCIPLINE SYSTEMS

- 5.1 Discipline administered by a Governing Organization shall be rendered in accordance with the Discipline by Review (DBR) system and/or Discipline by Hearing (DBH) system.
- 5.2 **Discipline By Review (DBR)**
- 5.2.1 An organization may use the DBR. System only for those misconduct types defined in Procedure 9.0
- 5.2.2 The organization's Discipline Review Panel shall meet when required, to review all misconduct reports received since its last Discipline Review meeting. Discipline Review Panels may use email to hold review panels.
- 5.2.3 The Case Manager shall:
- a) Read the misconduct report
 - b) Identify the correct charge for each
 - c) Determine if the charge shall be handled by DBR or DBH
- The Discipline Review Panel shall:
- a) Decide on the DBR charge(s)
 - b) Render the mandatory penalty in accordance with Procedure 9.0.
 - c) Postpone a decision to a subsequent Discipline Review Meeting if it determines that further clarification and/or reports are required.
- 5.2.4 **Notification of Penalty**
- Decisions shall be forwarded, in writing, by mail, fax, e-mail, or designated website, to all affected parties within four (4) days of the hearing, and shall indicate the following
- a) Exact offence(s) of which the accused has been found guilty; and
 - b) Starting date and the expiry date of the suspension or the specific games from which the accused has been suspended and/or the specific fine that has been levied.



5.2.5 Appeal of a Decision under the DBR System

Except where a decision has been made that is in contravention of or not in accordance with a published rule, discipline decisions made under the DBR System may not be appealed.

5.2.6 Requests for A Hearing

5.2.6.1 Except in cases of Ontario Soccer Misconduct Type 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, 1.13, 1.14 and 1.14A an individual who is subject to the DBR System shall have the right to request to be disciplined by the DBH System

5.2.6.2 Where applicable, the accused shall submit a written request to the Governing Organization having jurisdiction to hear the case, within three (3) days of receiving the dismissal. This request must arrive before the date of the next scheduled Discipline Review meeting, as published.

5.2.6.3 In cases where there was no dismissal/ejection performed by the showing of a red card, the Governing Organization shall notify the accused, provide a copy of the Special Incident Report and/or Dismissal Report and provide an opportunity for the accused to request a hearing within specified timelines.

5.2.6.4 The request shall be written and submitted together with the appropriate "Request for Hearing Fee"

5.2.6.5 A Discipline Hearing Administrative Fee is only payable if the accused is found guilty of the charge.

5.2.6.6 The "Request for Hearing Fee" shall be paid prior to the start of the hearing and this fee is non-refundable.

5.3 Discipline by Hearing

5.3.1 Notification of Hearing

For Governing Organizations without regularly scheduled hearings, the accused shall receive fifteen (15) days' notice along with all those required to attend the hearing. Such notice shall also be forwarded to the Club where the offence involves a Registered Player, Team Official or Club Administrator.

5.3.2 For Governing Organizations that have published the dates on which they hold regularly scheduled hearings, the organization shall:

- a) Publish the organization's hearing schedule;
- b) Publish the hearing schedule information regarding the following:
 - i. The method of notification for those required to attend;
 - ii. The rights of the accused party to request a postponement;
 - iii. The rights to bring an adviser, observer(s) and/or witnesses(s) to the hearing;
 - iv. The right to receive within 48 hours upon submitting a written request to the organization, a copy of the Report(s) of Misconduct and all documentation which will be considered by the Discipline Hearing Panel
- c) If the accused has not been provided disclosure in accordance with b) iv) above, at least 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the hearing, provide the accused with a copy of the Report(s) of Misconduct and all documentation which will be considered by the Discipline Hearing Panel

5.3.3 If any party required to attend a hearing challenges the legality of the hearing on the basis that insufficient notice of the hearing was given, the Hearing Panel will determine if the complaint is legitimate and, if found to be, will only proceed if relevant parties sign a waiver or will adjourn the case to a subsequent date.

5.3.4 The Discipline Hearing Panel shall not overrule any legitimate objections which are based on the Discipline Procedures contained in these "operational procedures"



5.3.5 Request for Postponement

Any party required to attend a hearing may request one (1) postponement. The party must submit a written request, stating the reason for the postponement, and must be received by the Governing Organization no later than 48 hours prior to the date of that hearing. All such requests must be accompanied by the applicable fee, except in cases where disclosure is not provided in accordance with Procedure 5.3.1 b) iv. above. Any rescheduled hearing requested by the accused shall be held within fourteen (14) days of the original hearing date unless circumstances, agreed to by the Governing Organization, warrant the extension of that time frame.

5.3.5.1 Any Match Official required to attend does not have to pay the "Request For Postponement Fee" unless they are the accused.

5.3.5.2 In the event that criminal charges are laid as a result of any incident that occurred in a game or in the vicinity of the game's venue after the game, the case shall proceed in accordance with "Published Rules," unless the accused requests a postponement of the hearing.

5.3.6 Request for New Hearing

5.3.6.1 Those who request another hearing after failing to attend a hearing when required to do so, shall submit a written request together with the recorded payment for the fee as specified by the Governing Organization. This fee is non-refundable.

5.3.6.2 When a hearing is postponed due to the disposition of the criminal charge(s) the accused will not be required to pay the "Request for Hearing Fee." The outcome of a criminal case will not influence charges laid under Ontario Soccer "Published Rules."

5.4 Pleading Guilty

An accused party may plead guilty and forego a hearing. Written notification of such must be received by the Governing Organization no later than four days prior to the date of the hearing. In doing so, the accused party accepts the maximum penalty applicable to Ontario Soccer Misconduct Type charged. The appropriate administrative fee will be levied. The accused party may not appeal a decision rendered by the Discipline Hearing Panel once the guilty plea has been entered, unless the penalty assessed is not within the standard range in accordance with the Published Rules

5.5 Attendance at Discipline Hearing

5.5.1 The accused individual (or their representative) or Governing Organization (or their representative) must attend a hearing. Anyone representing an accused must provide a signed proxy from the accused before being allowed to participate at a hearing. Representative for an accused individual may only represent one accused at each hearing. Representative may only act as an adviser to the accused and may not offer testimony or evidence themselves unless they have a proxy, and then the accused cannot speak as there can only be one official representative per individual.

5.5.2 An accused may choose to be accompanied by another adult who may act as an adviser.

5.5.3 An accused less than eighteen years of age must be accompanied by an adult, who shall act as an adviser, failing which the hearing will not proceed and the accused shall be suspended until the hearing is held.

5.5.4 If the accused does not appear, the hearing will not proceed, the accused will be fined in accordance with the "Schedule of Fees, Fines, Bonds and Penalties" as published by the Governing Organization, and the accused will be suspended from all soccer related activities until he/she requests in writing and attends a hearing.

5.5.5 In all cases of alleged Match Official Assault, the following must attend the hearing:

- a) The accused; (notwithstanding 5.6.1, the accused must attend in person)



- b) The person(s) submitting the report(s);
- c) The Club representative.

5.5.6 If any of the above parties listed in Procedure 5.5 above fail to attend a hearing in which they are as required to attend, that person may be disciplined as outlined below:

- a) An accused person failing to attend a Discipline Hearing when required to do so, shall be suspended from all soccer related activity until such time that they request, in writing, another hearing and appears at that subsequent hearing; and they shall be fined in accordance with the “governing documents” of the organization hearing the case.
- b) A Governing Organization failing to attend a Discipline Hearing, when required to do so, shall be fined in accordance with the “governing documents” of the organization hearing the case.

5.5.7 Should the accused fail to participate in, or remain at, a discipline hearing through to the decision of the Discipline Hearing Panel when required to do so, the following actions may be applied by the Panel

- a) If the Discipline Hearing Panel has insufficient evidence to render a decision prior to the accused's refusal to participate or their departure/walkout, the accused shall be suspended from all soccer related activities until such time that he/she requests, in writing, another hearing and appears at and actively participate in that subsequent hearing.
- b) If the Discipline Hearing Panel determines that it has obtained sufficient evidence to render a decision prior to the walkout the Panel shall proceed to render a decision in their absence and it shall be binding.

5.5.8 Witnesses or a complainant may also be required to attend the Discipline Hearing. Refer to 5.5.9 for Match Official requirements.

5.5.9 The Match Official must attend a Discipline Hearing if required by the Discipline Hearing Panel or where the penalty is one year or greater. Any reasonable expenses incurred by the Match Official shall be reimbursed by the Governing Organization handling the case.

5.6 Advisers, Club Representative, Witnesses and Observers

5.6.1 Advisers

5.6.1.1 An adviser is a person 18 years of age or older who provides advice to any party required to attend a Discipline Hearing including the Panel and may not act as a witness nor provide any testimony at the Discipline Hearing. They may not question the competence of the Match Official(s) and may not witness.

5.6.1.2 The Chair of the Discipline Hearing Panel shall notify any advisers that the hearing will be conducted strictly in accordance with Ontario Soccer Governing documents.

5.6.1.3 An adviser may not be granted an adjournment of the hearing on the grounds that they are not familiar with Ontario Soccer Governing Documents.

5.6.2 Observers

5.6.2.1 Each party required to attend a Discipline Hearing is entitled to have a maximum of two observers in attendance at the Discipline Hearing. They may not act as a witness nor provide any testimony but may speak at the discretion of the Discipline Hearing Panel.

5.6.2.2 If an observer interrupts a Discipline Hearing and refuses to stop such interruptions when requested to do so by the Discipline Hearing Panel, he/she shall be required to leave the hearing room, prior to the continuation of the hearing.



5.6.3 Club, District or League Representative

- 5.6.3.1** Each Club / District or League is entitled to send a representative to a Discipline Hearing at which one of its Player(s), Team Official(s) Administrators, or Match Official(s) is required to attend and may serve as an adviser.
- 5.6.3.2** At a Discipline Hearing for a Match Official Assault case, the Club shall send a representative to the hearing.
- 5.6.3.3** A Club Representative may also serve as an adviser to a party, usually the accused, and is entitled to the full rights of an adviser, in accordance with Operational Procedure 5.6.1.
- 5.6.3.4** At a Discipline Hearing for a Match Official Assault case the District Referee Coordinator (DRC) of the assaulted Match Official shall be requested to attend the hearing or send a designate.

5.6.4 Witnesses

- 5.6.4.1** Each party required to attend a Discipline Hearing, including the Governing Organization hearing the case, is entitled to bring witnesses. Witnesses must appear in person.
- 5.6.4.2** There is no limit to the number of witnesses allowed, but they must add new testimony and the Discipline Hearing Panel can restrict the testimony of witnesses if the testimony given becomes repetitious.

5.6.5 Composition of Discipline Hearing Panel

- 5.6.5.1** A Discipline Hearing Panel shall consist of at least three members:
1. The Chair. Please note; The Discipline Chair of a Governing body, District, League, Club or Tournament must have current Discipline training prior to the hearing being convened. Also, no "Director" may sit as Discipline Chair of their own organization.
 2. The Recording Secretary and;
 3. A third member

The Case Manager may not sit on the Panel.

Panel Members shall be carefully selected for the Discipline Hearing Panel to ensure the panel member has no relationship with the affected parties, has no involvement with the misconduct being considered and is free from any other actual or perceived bias or conflict. Only one (1) registered Match Official shall be allowed on a panel. In certain situations, the Case Administrator may also act as the Recording Secretary

- 5.6.5.2** The accused may sign a waiver form or in a virtual hearing give verbal, recorded approval for a panel of two members or for a hearing notice that is missing elements in the required notice.

5.6.6 Discipline Hearing Procedures for In-Person, Teleconference and Virtual Hearings

- 5.6.6.1** Discipline hearing procedures for in-person, teleconference and virtual hearings shall be conducted in accordance with Ontario Soccer's [Discipline Hearing Procedures](#).

5.6.7 Audio Visual Technology

- 5.6.7.1** An audio or video recorder may be used by the Discipline or Appeal Committee to record the hearing for the purpose of soccer administration. An audio recorder may be used by: the Accused; the Accuser; the Appellant; and, the Respondent for the sole purpose of assisting in the preparation of an Appeal against a decision. All parties recording a hearing must advise participants that the hearing is being recorded. Audio or Video recordings by any other party or for any other purpose is prohibited.
- 5.6.7.2** Video evidence is acceptable provided it substantiates verbal evidence given by any party. Video evidence that simply seeks to show errors made by a Match Official shall be ruled out of order and not considered. Video evidence that shows possible errors in identification by the Match Official shall be allowed.



5.6.7.3 If the Discipline Hearing is being conducted by teleconference or virtually, any Video evidence shall be submitted at least four (4) days prior to the hearing, so that the video evidence can be forwarded to the panel in a manner that the panel can open to view after it has been entered under 5.6.7.2. Video evidence submitted less than 4 days prior to the hearing, or during the hearing, may not be included in the hearing.

5.6.8 Notification of Penalty

5.6.8.1 In all cases, decisions shall be forwarded, in writing, by mail, fax, e-mail, or designated website, to the parties involved within fifteen (15) days after the conclusion of the hearing. The decision shall include the "Rights of Appeal Information". If the accused is found guilty, the decision shall include:

- a) The exact offence(s) of which the accused has been found guilty and reasons to support the decision.
- b) The exact terms of the discipline imposed, including any suspension(s), fee(s), fine(s), or bond(s).

5.6.8.2 If the written decision is not received within the specified timeframe, the accused person's or organizations rights of appeal begin on the date of the receipt of the written decision, with the Rights to Appeal document.

5.6.9 Rights of Appeal

5.6.9.1 Any party directly affected by a decision under the DBH system has the right to appeal that decision. The discipline decision shall remain in effect pending the result of the appeal.

5.6.9.2 If the "Rights of Appeal Information" is not given to a party directly affected by the decision, then that party's rights of appeal, begin on the date of the receipt of the "Rights of Appeal Information".

PROCEDURE 6.0 - MATCH OFFICIAL ASSAULT

6.1 Reporting a Match Official Assault

6.1.1 A Match Official Assault shall be reported in accordance with **Procedure 2.4**.

6.2 Immediate Suspension

Within 24 hours after receipt of the report, the District Association shall notify the alleged offender, their Club and League, that they are immediately suspended from all soccer related activity, pending a hearing by an Ontario Soccer Discipline Hearing Panel in the District Association with which they are registered or with which their Club is affiliated.

6.3 Jurisdiction

6.3.1 Ontario Soccer Discipline Hearing Panel shall be appointed by the District Association with which the accused is registered or with which the Club of the accused is affiliated. The District Association's appointed Discipline Hearing Panel shall act as Ontario Soccer's Discipline Hearing Panel in the hearing of such cases.

6.3.2 The Discipline Hearing shall be convened within 30 days of the receipt of the report by the relevant Governing Organization

6.4 Attendance of Match Official at Discipline Hearing for Match Official Assault

6.4.1 If the Match Official, who has filed a report alleging Match Official Assault:

- a) Is unable or unwilling to attend a Discipline Hearing for the accused within 30 days after missing the first scheduled hearing or;
- b) Fails to attend two scheduled Discipline Hearings without a valid reason



Then the charge of Match Official Assault shall be dismissed. For each time the Match Official fails to attend a scheduled Discipline Hearing without valid reason, the Match Official shall be fined in accordance with Procedure 9.0.

6.5 Decision Pertaining to Match Official Assault Case

- 6.5.1** When suspending a Registrant for Match Official Assault, the Discipline Hearing Panel shall include any period of suspension already served up to a maximum of two months.
- 6.5.2** If the accused is found guilty of Match Official Assault, the Club of the accused shall be assessed a "Discipline Hearing Administrative Fee."
- 6.5.3** Disposition of all cases involving Match Official Assault shall be reported to Ontario Soccer Office within 21 days after the completion of the hearing including the findings and decision.

PROCEDURE 7.0 - DISCIPLINE AT TOURNAMENTS

- 7.1** The Governing Organization responsible for the tournament shall ensure the Discipline Chair has met the Core and Discipline Chair education and training requirements.
- 7.2** Alleged offenders must be dealt with by The Panel under the DBR system or DBH system as appropriate directly after the game in which the misconduct was reported.
- 7.3** The Panel may, where justified, suspend any person dismissed during, or after, a game, from all further participation in the tournament. This is mandatory for any "A" misconduct type related to Match Officials.
- 7.4** If the Panel is unable to deal with an offence in a satisfactory manner after the game in which the alleged misconduct occurred:
 - a) The offender shall not be permitted to participate any further in the tournament;
 - b) Within 48 hours after the completion of the tournament, the Tournament's Host Organization must forward the Match Official's report, together with any other reports, to its District Association;
- 7.5** In the case of a Match Official Assault in a tournament, the offender shall be immediately suspended from all soccer related activities, pending a hearing by an Ontario Soccer Discipline Hearing Panel.
 - a) The Match Official shall submit their preliminary report to the District Association in which he/she resides and to Ontario Soccer's Match Official Development Program within 48 hours of the assault and then a completed Match Official Assault Report within 5 days of the alleged assault;
 - b) The tournament's host organization shall immediately (after the completion of the tournament) notify its District Association;
 - c) Within 24 hours after receipt of notification of the Match Official Assault, the District Association shall notify the District Association with which the offender's Club is affiliated who will in turn notify the accused, the Club of the accused and the League which he/she plays, that the accused is suspended from all soccer related activity until being dealt with by an Ontario Soccer Discipline Hearing Panel.
- 7.6** The Tournament's Host organization shall forward to its Governing Organization:
 - a) Within three days after the completion of a tournament, copies of all misconduct reports, including dismissal and special incident reports, and the "list of cautions report;" and
 - b) Within three days after the completion of a tournament, a summary report about the discipline rendered to each person.
 - c) Who will in turn forward for each person registered with another District Association the misconducts reports and summary report(s) to the appropriate District Association and shall forward a copy of such to Ontario Soccer



PROCEDURE 8.0 - SUSPENSIONS

8.1 Serving Suspensions

- 8.1.1** Any suspension for Match Official Assault shall begin immediately when the report is submitted to the Governing Organization and continues if the accused is found guilty. The Governing Organization is responsible for notifying the accused that they are suspended from all soccer activities pending a discipline hearing.
- 8.1.2** If a suspension is for a specific number of games a Registrant suspended in a League, League cup, League play-off or any other League competition shall serve the suspension with the League.
- 8.1.3** If a Registrant is suspended for a specific number of scheduled games in a tournament and if the suspension has not been fully served then any outstanding games shall be transferred to the game(s) of the Registrant's League.
- 8.1.4** A Registrant unable to fully serve their suspension in a designated competition(s) due to the completion of scheduled games, or the individual leaving the team or League, shall serve their remaining games in the new team or competition(s) they enter. The suspension shall follow the individual Registrant until fully served.
- 8.1.5** Game suspension not completed during the current playing season will be carried over to the following playing season. Indoor to Indoor, Outdoor to Outdoor, Futsal to Futsal.
- Note: Game suspensions for tournament team Players, shall follow the Player to their next registered game.*
- 8.1.6** If anyone is found guilty of multiple charges, which involve both time suspensions and game suspensions, the accused shall serve the time suspension FIRST, followed by the game suspensions.

8.2 Suspension Review

- 8.2.1** Anyone under suspension for two years or longer may request a review of their period of suspension after at least half of such suspension has been served.
- 8.2.2** Notwithstanding Procedure 8.2.1, in any case in which the suspension exceeds six years, a review may be requested after three years of such suspension has been served.
- 8.2.3** A "Request for a Suspension Review" shall be made to the organization which rendered the suspension.
- 8.2.4** A letter of recommendation from a Governing Organization except the District Association receiving the "Request for a Suspension Review" must accompany any such request.
- 8.2.5** In the case of reviewing a suspension which resulted from a Match Official Assault:
- a) The application shall be submitted to the District Association with which the applicant was registered or affiliated at the time the suspension was levied;
 - b) The application shall be made on the applicable Ontario Soccer form and submitted with a recorded payment for the correct fee in accordance with Procedure 11.0; and
 - c) An Ontario Soccer Suspension Review Panel shall be appointed by the District Association receiving the application and shall act as Ontario Soccer's Suspension Review Panel in the reviewing of such suspension.
- 8.2.6** Any Registrant suspended for not attending a hearing for playing season offence, shall remain on the long-term suspension list as published by Ontario Soccer for a maximum period of 5 years. After which time the accused shall be permitted to participate in soccer upon registration along with a fine of \$500.00.



8.3 How to apply suspensions from all Soccer Related Activity for employees registered to Ontario Soccer

- 8.3.1** In-Game coaching can be defined as ALL activities and responsibilities of a Coach, Technical Director or Administrator during a game beginning with their presence at the bench and including any advice, commentary or assistance to Players or other technical staff on the day of the game.
- 8.3.2** Hence with a paid employee a misconduct that requires suspension from all soccer related activity is to be levied through game suspensions that ban the accused from being present at the field on the day of the game(s). This would include any communications with the team staff at the bench by any means.
- 8.3.3** The length of the suspension would be measured in weeks/months as defined in the misconduct suspension and any and all games during that period are to be included in the game suspension. Hence a Coach/Technical Director responsible for or involved with multiple teams would be barred from being present at the field for all the games played by these teams during the period of the suspension - regardless of the actual number of games.
- 8.3.4** Team staff who may receive some form of payment/stipend directly from team parents are not to be considered employees under this policy. (i.e., not employed by a Governing Body). Receiving payment from parents does not constitute being a paid employee and can be subject to suspension from all soccer related activity.
- Accordingly, Coaches paid by parents in any form are subject to the full force of suspension from all soccer related activity and must be suspended from all soccer related activity as defined in the policies.
- 8.3.5** Suspension from all Soccer Related Activity applies to all members/Registrants of Ontario Soccer. However, employees of Governing Bodies are subject to less restrictive sanctions because Ontario Soccer suspensions from all Soccer Related Activity cannot breach labour laws. This does not mean an employee is exempt from sanctions levied by a Governing Body. A Governing Body has the authority to suspend a Coach, Technical Director or Administrator from in-game Coaching.

PROCEDURE 9.0 - STANDARD PENALTIES FOR MISCONDUCT

- 9.1** Where a specific suspension is quoted, the set suspension is mandatory and can be administered by DBR. Where suspensions are quoted as a range, application of a suspension within the range is required and the misconduct must be dealt with by DBH. All fines equal to, or greater than, \$500.00 must be dealt with by DBH.
- 9.2** Probationary sentences, suspended sentences or concurrent sentences are not permitted.
- 9.3** A Governing Organizations may impose fines, fees, bonds and/or penalties for other offences provided such are listed in its "governing documents" provided such penalties are not in conflict with any Ontario Soccer Misconduct Type. With regard to Players, a fee, fine, bond and/or financial penalty may only be imposed on a Player who is registered with a senior team, including a youth age Player registered with a senior team.
- 9.4 Immediate Suspensions from All Soccer Activities**
- An immediate suspension must be imposed on receipt of a report for the following misconduct:



- i. Offences of moral turpitude
- ii. Physical assault, verbal assault or attempted physical assault of a mini or youth registered Player by a Team Official or Administrator and/or Match Official
- iii. Match Official Assault by a Player, Team Official, Administrator or another Match Official
- iv. Missed Discipline Hearing: If the accused fails to attend a Discipline Hearing in which they were required to attend.

9.4.1 Where a person has been charged under federal or provincial statute with an offense of moral turpitude, the accused is immediately, without need for review or hearing, suspended from all soccer related activities until the criminal case(s) is(are) concluded before the courts of jurisdiction. Ontario Soccer and Canada Soccer will, in all cases, suspend any discipline reviews or hearings associated with a criminal offense until the case(s) is(are) concluded. Ontario Soccer reserves the right to resume proceedings if it deems those proceedings are warranted under the Governing Documents of Ontario Soccer and/or Canada Soccer.

9.4.2 Within 24 hours after receipt of the report from the Match Official, or after charges have been laid by the police, the District Association shall notify the alleged offender, their Club and League, that they are immediately suspended from all soccer related activity, pending a hearing by the District Association Discipline Hearing Panel with which they are registered or with which their Club is affiliated.

9.4.3 All other policies pertaining to the administration and handling of the Discipline Hearing(s) for these Ontario Soccer Misconduct Types will be in accordance with Discipline Procedure 6.0 – Match Official Assault.

9.5 On misconduct being proved to its satisfaction, a Discipline Hearing/Review Panel shall have the power to cause a Registrant:

- a) To be suspended from all or any specific soccer related activity for a stated period of time;
- b) To be suspended for a specific number of scheduled games in a designated competition(s); and
- c) To be fined and/or bonded (with or without suspension).

Within the specifications and limitations as detailed in the Tables of Standard Penalties for the specific registrant type.

9.5.1 A Discipline Hearing Panel must suspend the accused from 'all soccer related activity' when a finding of guilty is rendered for one of the following Ontario Soccer Misconduct Types.

Player	Team Official	Administrator	Match Official
1.22	2.41	3.41	4.50
1.51	2.50	3.50	4.51
1.52	2.51	3.51	4.51A
1.64	2.51A	3.51A	4.52
1.65	2.52	3.52	4.52A
1.67	2.52A	3.52A	4.53
1.68	2.53	3.61	4.54
1.69	2.54	3.63	4.61
1.71	2.61	3.64	4.64
1.73	2.63	3.65	4.67
1.74	2.64	3.67	4.68
1.51A	2.65	3.68	4.71
1.52A	2.67	3.71	4.72
1.61	2.68	3.72	4.73
1.74	2.71	3.73	4.74
	2.72	3.74	4.75
	2.73	3.75	
	2.74	3.76	
	2.75		



- 9.5.2** Unless the misconduct type permits the Panel to order the offender suspended from all soccer related activity, the suspension shall be served in all programs that the offender is registered as a Player, this includes all Leagues and competitions. . **NOTE: Not applicable to Match Officials.**
- 9.5.2.1** Abuse including verbal, physical or mental (psychological) of a youth registered participant (Player, Match Official, Coach, Volunteer) will result in a suspension from all soccer activities
- 9.5.3** Notwithstanding 9.5.2, a Player who has been suspended for one or more games in League play shall not be permitted to "play up":
- i. For a higher level Club team within their own Club, or
 - ii. With a Temporary Eligibility Permit (TEP) for a higher-level Club team of a Club other than one with which they are registered.

In a League game for any other team until after the scheduled date of the final game covered by their suspension (such date to be indicated on the notice of suspension).

- 9.5.4** Notwithstanding 9.5.2, if the suspension is the result of the offender:
- i. Having played for a higher level Club team within their own Club, or
 - ii. Having played up with a Temporary Eligibility Permit (TEP) for a higher level Club team of a Club other than one with which they are registered

Then in such instances, the misconduct report will be transferred to, and the suspension administered by, the League with which the offender's regular team is registered.

- 9.5.5** A Player or Team Official suspended for specific games may not participate in any other registration category for that team during their suspension
- 9.6** A Player shall only be disciplined for the accumulation of cautions within the same competition/League.
- 9.7** When a Player is dismissed for "Receiving a second caution in the same game", the two cautions in that game shall not be included in the accumulation of cautions with that competition/League.
- 9.8** If the evidence submitted at a Discipline Hearing does not warrant the accused being found guilty of the charges laid against her/him and there is sufficient evidence to find the accused person guilty of a lesser charge, the Discipline Hearing Panel may find the accused guilty of the lesser charge, provided that the lesser charge is not a different charge and is directly related to the original charge.
- 9.8.1** A Discipline Hearing Panel may only find an accused guilty of a lesser charge if the evidence presented better fits the description of the lesser charge in accordance with only the following offences:

Player	Team Official	Administrator	Match Official	Club
1.16 to 1.15	2.14 to 2.13	3.16 to 3.15		5.51 to 5.53
1.16A to 1.16 or 1.15	2.14A to 2.14 or 2.13	3.16A to 3.16 or 3.14A or 3.14		5.51A to 5.53A
1.17 to 1.16 or 1.15	2.16 to 2.15	3.17 to 3.16 or 3.15	4.51A to 4.51	5.52 to 5.51 or 5.53
1.17A to 1.17 or 1.16A or 1.15	2.16A to 2.16 or 2.15 or 2.14 or 2.13	3.17A to 3.17 or 3.16A or 3.16 or 3.15	4.52 to 4.51	5.52A to 5.51A to 5.53A
1.19A to 1.19	2.16B to 2.16 or 2.15	3.51 to 3.16A or 3.16 or 3.14	4.52A to 4.51A or 4.51	
1.21A to 1.21	2.51 to 2.16A or 2.16 or 2.14		4.54 to 4.53	



1.51 to 1.16A or 1.16 or 1.17A or 1.17	2.52 to 2.51 or 2.16A or 2.16 or 2.14	3.52 to 3.51 or 3.16A or 3.16		
1.52 to 1.51 or 1.16A or 1.16 or 1.17A or 1.17	2.52A to 2.51A	3.54 to 3.53		
1.73 to 1.16 or 1.15	2.54 to 2.53	3.73 to 3.16 or 3.15		
	2.73 to 2.16 or 2.15			

- 9.9** A youth aged Match Official, officiating in a youth or mini competition who engages in misconduct, may not be fined for a first misconduct offence, but should be provided with an alternative education program, as established by the District Association, in order to assist in the rehabilitation of the Match Official.
- 9.9.1** If found guilty of the same Misconduct Type a second time in the same playing season, the Discipline Hearing Panel may then suspend the offending Match Official from refereeing for a period of seven (7) to fourteen (14) days.
- 9.10** In the matter of Match Official Assault, it shall be considered a second or third lifetime offence if the Registrant is found guilty again of any ".51" or ".52" offence regardless of the registration category. The penalty applied shall be the penalty applicable to the Registrant's category when the subsequent offence was committed.
- 9.11** The authority for dealing with any registration misconduct is the responsibility of District Associations. Only District Associations may render a fine for these types of misconduct in accordance with those shown in this procedure or a District's published schedule of Fines, Fee, Bonds or Penalties.
- 9.11.1** Leagues may take additional action on the disposition of the game results for Clubs where it proved the Team played an ineligible Player in any game and may impose fines on the Club in accordance with their published schedule of Fees, Fines, Bonds and Penalties subject to the maximum fine established in these procedures. Game sheet irregularities as a result of mistakes made by a Team Official do not constitute the use of an ineligible Player by the team but may be dealt with under League playing rules for incorrect team sheets.
- 9.11.2** Ineligible Player is defined as follows and shall apply to all competitions in Ontario. No District Association, League or Tournament/Festival/Exhibition Game Host Organization may use any other definition in its competition's rules:
- Playing while under suspension,
 - Playing without an international transfer,
 - Playing without having been re-instated from Professional to amateur,
 - Playing while not being properly registered,
 - Playing up or playing as a guest Player when ineligible to do so,
 - Playing after failing to produce physical Ontario Soccer Registrant Identification when requested to do so.
- 9.12** The use of any misconduct types (Acted in contravention of, or failed to act in accordance with an "Operational Procedure" misconduct type ".66" or Acted in a manner deemed to be detrimental to "the game" "misconduct type" ".67") are restricted to situations where the alleged misconduct is not covered by a specific Ontario Soccer misconduct within Procedure 9.16.
- 9.12.1** All hearing notices for the charge ending in .66 must include the detail of the published rule that was contravened.
- 9.13** If a Registrant/Registered Organization, who is a required party to attend and who is not the accused party, fails to attend a discipline hearing for the Discipline Hearing Panel may fine the Registrant/Registered



Organization in accordance with the fines indicated in the tables in Procedure 9.0 without the need to convene another hearing.

- 9.14** A Governing Organization shall review and revise any penalty imposed by a Discipline Hearing/Review Panel, including a Discipline Hearing Panel acting as an Ontario Soccer Discipline Hearing Panel if determined that the penalty imposed was less than the mandatory penalty.
- 9.15** A person suspended by a Club or a League for violation of a "Club or League's Published Rule" shall be suspended from that Club or League's activities only.
- 9.16** Suspensions, Fines and Bonds levied by any organization shall be in accordance with the Standard Penalties for Misconduct Tables in this Operational Procedure. In the subsequent Tables, in addition to all suspensions when the offense is directed at a Match Official, a mandatory education program must be completed.

Table 1 - Standard Penalties for Misconduct by a Player Based on Playing Season Offence(s)

Type #	Description of Misconduct	First playing season Offence	Second playing season Offence	Third or More playing season Offence
1.1	First Caution.	no action		
1.2	Second Caution	no action		
1.3	Third Caution.	1-game suspension		
1.4	Fourth Caution.	no action		
1.5	Fifth Caution.	2-game suspension		
1.6	Sixth Caution & any subsequent caution.	3-game suspension		
1.7	Notwithstanding Misconduct Types 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, and 1.6 above, the following suspensions will be applied to Players in the Regional & Provincial Divisions of the Provincial & Regional Senior Leagues:			
1.7.1	First Caution.	no action		
1.7.2	Second Caution	no action		
1.7.3	Third Caution.	no action		
1.7.4	Fourth Caution.	no action		
1.7.5	Fifth Caution.	1-game suspension		
1.7.6	Sixth Caution	no action		
1.7.7	Seventh Caution.	1-game suspension		
1.7.8	Eighth Caution.	2-game suspension		
1.7.9	Ninth Caution.	2-game suspension		
1.7.10	Tenth Caution	suspended for remainder of season		
1.13	Dismissed for "Receiving a second caution in the same game" for which neither of the cautions was directed at the Match Official(s).	1-game suspension	3-game suspension	See misconduct 1.22
1.14	Dismissed for "Receiving a second caution in the same game" for which at least one of the cautions was directed at the Match Official(s).	2-game suspension	4-game suspension	See misconduct 1.22



1.14A	Dismissed for "Receiving a second caution in the same game" for which at least one of the cautions were directed at a Match Official under the age of 18.	4-game suspension	8-game suspension	See misconduct 1.22
1.15	Dismissed or reported by Match Official for "Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures" directed at anyone other than the Match Official(s). If racist or sexual comments - please see 1.73	1-game suspension	3-game suspension	See misconduct 1.22
1.16	Dismissed or reported by Match Official for "Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures/actions" directed at the Match Official (s). If racist or sexual comments - please see 1.73	3-game suspension	8-game suspension	See misconduct 1.22
1.16A	Dismissed or reported by Match Official for "Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures/actions" directed at Match official(s) under the age of 18. If racist or sexual comments - please see 1.73	8-game suspension	16-game suspension	See misconduct 1.22
1.17	Dismissed or reported for "using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures/actions" directed at a Match Official(s) after having been previously dismissed or reported Note: A suspension of 9-12 games can only be applied for 1.17 where the charge has been reduced from Match Official Assault charges 1.51/1.52. Otherwise, the maximum suspension for 1.17 is 8 games.	6-12 game suspension	8-16 game suspension	See misconduct 1.22
1.17A	Dismissed or reported for "using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures/actions" directed at a Match official(s) under the age of 18, after having been previously dismissed or reported Note: Suspension for a youth Player under 1.17A cannot exceed 8 games. An adult Player can be suspended up to the maximum of 16 games.	8-16 game suspension	12-18 game suspension	See misconduct 1.22
1.18	Dismissed for "Denying an opponent a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball".	1-game suspension	2-game suspension	See misconduct 1.22
1.18A	Dismissed for "Denying an opponent a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the Player's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick or penalty kick".	2-game suspension	4-game suspension	See misconduct 1.22
1.19	Dismissed for "Serious Foul Play(as defined by the current IFAB Laws of the Game). Otherwise see 1.21Otherwise see 1.21	2-game suspension	4-game suspension	See misconduct 1.22
1.19A	Dismissed for "Serious Foul Play" where in the opinion of the Discipline Hearing Panel there was an obvious "attempt to injure" or "a complete disregard for the safety of an opponent" (as defined by the	4-8 game suspension	8-12 game suspension	See misconduct 1.22



	current IFAB Laws of the Game). Otherwise see 1.21 otherwise see 1.21A			
1.20	Dismissed or reported for "Spitting at an opponent or any other person", other than a Match Official. NOTE: Spitting at a Match Official is Misconduct Type 1.52.	4-game suspension	8-game suspension	See misconduct 1.22
1.21	Dismissed or reported for "Violent Conduct" (as defined by the current IFAB Laws of the Game).	3-game suspension	6-game suspension	See misconduct 1.22
1.21A	Dismissed or reported for "Violent Conduct" (as defined by the current IFAB Laws of the Game) where in the opinion of the Discipline Hearing Panel there was an obvious attempt to seriously injure a Registrant or Non-Registrant.	6-10 game suspension	10-15 game suspension	See misconduct 1.22
1.22	Received and found guilty of a third dismissal in a playing season within that League or competition	1-11-month suspension		
1.23	Senior Player played as an ineligible Player except for a Player who played while under suspension in which case Misconduct Type 1.64 shall apply.	2-game suspension	4-game suspension	8-game suspension
1.25	Re-enters the field of play or Player bench area after having been dismissed from the game by the Match Official.	2-game suspension	5-game suspension	See misconduct 1.22
Standard Penalties for Misconduct by a Player Based on Lifetime Offences				
Type #	Description of Misconduct	First Lifetime Offence	Second Lifetime Offence	Third or More Lifetime Offence
1.51	Match Official Assault for "deliberate physical contact (i.e., pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempted physical contact or threatening physical contact". <i>This charge carries an immediate suspension from all soccer activity</i>	6-12-month suspension + \$200.00 fine	1-3-year suspension + \$200.00 fine	Minimum 5-year suspension
1.51A	Match Official Assault (against a Match Officials under the age of 18) for "deliberate physical contact (i.e., pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempted physical contact or threatening physical contact". <i>This charge carries an immediate suspension from all soccer activity</i>	1-3-year suspension + \$300.00 fine	3-5-year suspension + \$300.00 fine	Minimum 7-year suspension
1.52	Match Official Assault for "striking, spitting, kicking, or any form of violent conduct, or attempted violent conduct". <i>This charge carries an immediate suspension from all soccer activity</i>	2-5-year suspension + \$400.00 fine	5-10-year suspension + \$400.00 fine	Minimum 10-year suspension
1.52A	Match Official Assault (against a Match Officials under the age of 18) for "striking, spitting, kicking, or any form of violent conduct, or attempted violent conduct".	5-10-year suspension + \$500.00 fine	10-15-year suspension + \$500.00 fine	Minimum 15-year suspension



	<i>This charge carries an immediate suspension from all soccer activity</i>			
1.61	Failed to attend a discipline hearing	Player is fined \$100.00 and remains suspended until he/she requests and attends a subsequent discipline hearing		
1.64	Participated in a soccer activity from which he/she was suspended	6-12-month suspension	1-3-year suspension	2-5-year suspension
1.65	Instigated and/or participated in a brawl between two teams before, during, or after a game.	1-3-month suspension	3-12-month suspension	1-3-year suspension
1.66	Senior Player acted in contravention of, or failed to act in accordance with, a "Published Rule." (see restrictions in procedure 9.12)	1-3-month suspension	3-12-month suspension	7-12-month suspension
1.67	Acted in a manner deemed to be detrimental to the game. (see restrictions in procedure 9.12)	3-12-month suspension	1-3-year suspension	2-5-year suspension
1.68	Committed one of more of the following: a) Changed any information on a registration form/game day roster/sheet without the consent of the person being registered on such form. b) Provided false or inaccurate information on a registration form/game day roster/sheet. c) Provided an invalid photograph for registration purposes. d) Misidentifying one's self to a Match Official	3-12-month suspension	1-3-year suspension	2-5-year suspension
1.69	Provided false information or withheld information (including date of birth; Club, country, and year last registered; etc.) on a Player registration form.	3-6-month suspension	6-12-month suspension	1-3-year suspension
1.70	Provided a false address on the Player registration form.	1-3-month suspension	6-12-month suspension	1-3-year suspension
1.71	Participated in any soccer related activity under a false name.	3-12-month suspension	1-3-year suspension	2-5-year suspension
1.73	Dismissed or reported by a Match Official or other Registrant for discriminatory or sexual comments made during the game or in the vicinity of the playing field either before, during or after the game	1-3-month suspension	4-6-month suspension	7-12-month suspension
1.74	Reported for "using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures" directed at any affected party at a discipline hearing.	3-12-month suspension	1-3-year suspension	2-5-year suspension

Table 2 - Standard Penalties for Misconduct by a Team Official Based on Season Offence(s)

Type #	Description of Misconduct	First playing season Offence	Second playing season Offence	Third or More playing season Offence
2.1	First Seasonal Caution	No Action		



2.2	Second Seasonal Caution	No Action		
2.3	Third Seasonal Caution	2-game suspension		
2.4	Fourth Seasonal Caution	2-game suspension		
2.5	Fifth Seasonal Caution	2-game suspension		
2.6	Sixth Seasonal Caution	4-game suspension		
2.7	*Seventh Seasonal Caution subsequent caution	5-game suspension	Any additional caution received in the same season will result in an additional 5 game suspension for each subsequent offence. (i.e.: 7th caution = 5 games, 8th caution = 5 games etc.)	
2.8A	Delaying the restart of play by the opposing team e.g., holding onto the ball, kicking the ball away, obstructing the movement of a Player	2-game suspension	4-game suspension	3-to-11-month suspension (as per Discipline 2.2)
2.8B	Deliberately throwing/kicking an object onto the field of play	2-game suspension	4 game suspension	3-to-11-month suspension (as per Discipline 2.2)
2.9	Entering the field of play to confront a Match Official (including at half-time and full-time) or to interfere with play, an opposing Player or a Match Official	2-game suspension	4-game suspension	3-to-11-month suspension (as per Discipline 2.2)
2.10	Deliberately leaving the technical area to show dissent towards, or berate a Match Official or act in a provocative or inflammatory manner	2-game suspension	4-game suspension	3-to-11-month suspension (as per Discipline 2.2)
2.11	Using unauthorised electronic or communication equipment and/or behaving in an inappropriate manner as the result of using electronic or communication equipment	2-game suspension	4-game suspension	3-to-11-month suspension (as per Discipline 2.2)
2.12	Entering the opposing technical area in an aggressive or confrontational manner	3-game suspension	4-game suspension	3-to-11-month suspension (as per Discipline 2.2)
2.13	Dismissed or reported for persisting in misconduct "after receiving a warning (second caution in the same game) 'for misconduct' from the Match Official" for which neither of the offences was directed at the Match Official(s).	1-game suspension	3-game suspension	See misconduct 2.22



2.14	Dismissed or reported for persistent misconduct "after receiving a warning (second caution in the same game) 'for misconduct' from the Match Official" for which at least one of the offences was directed at the Match Official(s).	2-game suspension	5-game suspension	See misconduct 2.22
2.14A	Dismissed or reported for persistent misconduct "after receiving a warning (second caution in the same game) 'for misconduct' from the Match Official" for which at least one of the offences was directed at Match Official(s) under the age of 18.	4-game suspension	10-game suspension	See misconduct 2.22
2.15	Dismissed or reported for using "Offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures" directed at anyone other than the Match Official(s).	2-game suspension	5-game suspension	See misconduct 2.22
2.16	Dismissed or reported for using "Offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures" directed at the Match Official(s).	4-game suspension	9-game suspension	See misconduct 2.22
2.16A	Dismissed or reported for using "Offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures" directed at a Match Official(s) under the age of 18	8-game suspension	18-game suspension	See misconduct 2.22
2.16B	Dismissed or reported for "using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures" directed at a Match Official(s) after having been previously dismissed or reported	7-9 game suspension	3-6-month suspension	See misconduct 2.22
2.22	Received and found guilty of a third dismissal in a playing season within that League or competition	3-11-month suspension		
2.25	Re-enters the field of play or Player's bench area after having been dismissed from the game by the Match Official	3-game suspension	6-game suspension	See misconduct 2.22
Standard Penalties for Misconduct by a Team Official Based on Lifetime Offences				
Type #	Description of Misconduct	First Lifetime Offence	Second Lifetime Offence	Third Lifetime Offence
2.50	Made deliberate physical contact (i.e., pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempts physical contact with Physical Assault or Attempted Physical Assault of a uniformed Grassroots registered Player or youth registered Player. <i>This charge carries an immediate suspension from all soccer activity</i>	3-12-month suspension + \$300.00 fine	1-3-year suspension + \$400.00 fine	Minimum 5-year suspension + \$500.00 fine
2.51	Match Official Assault for "deliberate physical contact (i.e., pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempted physical contact or threatening physical contact ". <i>This charge carries an immediate suspension from all soccer activity</i>	6-12-month suspension + \$300.00 fine	1-3-year suspension + \$400.00 fine	Minimum 5-year suspension + \$500.00 fine
2.51A	Match Official Assault (towards a youth aged Match Official) for "deliberate physical contact (i.e., pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempted physical contact or threatening physical contact ".	1-3-year suspension + \$400 fine	3-5-year suspension + \$500 fine	Lifetime Suspension



	<i>This charge carries an immediate suspension from all soccer activity</i>			
2.52	Match Official Assault for "striking, spitting, kicking, or any form of violent conduct, or attempted violent conduct". <i>This charge carries an immediate suspension from all soccer activity</i>	2–5-year suspension + \$300.00 fine	5–10-year suspension + \$400.00 fine	Minimum 10-year suspension + \$500.00 fine
2.52A	Match Official Assault (towards a youth aged Match Official) for "striking, spitting, kicking, or any form of violent conduct, or attempted violent conduct". <i>This charge carries an immediate suspension from all soccer activity</i>	Minimum 5-year suspension + \$500 fine	Lifetime Suspension	
2.53	Made deliberate physical contact (i.e., pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempts physical contact with, or threatens, a Registrant or Non-Registrant of Ontario Soccer (excluding a Match Official, or a Grassroots/youth registered Player).	3–12-month suspension	1–3-year suspension	5-year suspension
2.54	Struck, spat on, kicked, or committed any form of violent conduct, or attempted violent conduct, against a Registrant or Non-Registrant of Ontario Soccer (excluding a Match Official, or a Grassroots/youth registered Player)	2–5-year suspension	5–10-year suspension	10-year suspension
2.58	When request by a Player, refused to give the Player their registration book or ID Card within 5 days	\$100.00 fine	\$200.00 fine	\$400.00 fine
2.61	Failed to attend a discipline hearing	Accused is fined \$100.00 and remains suspended until he/she requests and attends a subsequent discipline hearing		
2.63	Played an ineligible or suspended Player in a sanctioned game or permitted a suspended Player who is suspended from all soccer related activity	3–12-month suspension	1–3-year suspension	2–5-year suspension
2.64	Participated in a soccer activity from which he/she was suspended	6–12-month suspension	1–3-year suspension	2–5-year suspension
2.65	Instigated and/or participated in a brawl between two teams, before, during, or after a game.	6–12-month suspension	1–3-year suspension	2–5-year suspension
2.66	Acted in contravention of, or failed to act in accordance with, a "Published Rule." (see restrictions in Procedure 9.12)	1–6-month suspension	6–12-month suspension	1–3-year suspension
2.67	Acted in a manner deemed to be detrimental to the game. (see restrictions in Procedure 9.12)	3–12-month suspension	1–3-year suspension	2–5-year suspension
2.68	Committed one or more of the following: a) Changed any information on a registration form/game day roster/sheet without the consent of the person being registered on such form. b) Provided false or inaccurate information on a registration form/game day roster/sheet.	3–12-month suspension	1–3-year suspension	2–5-year suspension



	c) Falsified a signature on a registration form/game day roster/sheet. d) Knowingly provided an invalid photograph of a person for the purpose of registering that person. e) misidentified Player to Match Official			
2.70	Provided a false address on the Player registration form.	1-3-month suspension	6-12-month suspension	1-3-year suspension
2.71	Participated in a soccer related activity under a false name	6-12-month suspension	1-3-year suspension	2-5-year suspension
2.72	Induced or attempted to induce a registered Player to leave their team/Club before the end of that team's current playing season.	6-12-month suspension	1-3-year suspension	2-5-year suspension
2.73	Dismissed or reported by a Match Official or other Registrant for discriminatory or sexual comments made during a game or in the vicinity of the playing field either before, during or after the game.	6-12-month suspension	1-3-year suspension	2-5-year suspension
2.74	Reported for "using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures" directed any affected party at a discipline hearing.	3-12-month suspension	1-3-year suspension	2-5-year suspension
2.75	Directly or indirectly encouraged or assisted in the establishment or operation of an unsanctioned soccer organization or competition unless Team Official is only acting as a Player	6-12-month suspension	18-24-month suspension	3-5-year suspension

Table 3 - Standard Penalties for Misconduct by an Administrator

Type #	Description of Misconduct	First playing seasonal Offence	Second playing seasonal Offence	Third or More playing seasonal Offence
3.13	Dismissed or reported for persisting in misconduct "after receiving a warning 'for misconduct' from the Match Official" for which neither of the offences was directed at the Match Official(s).	1 week suspension	3-week suspension	See misconduct 3.22
3.14	Dismissed or reported for persistent misconduct "after receiving a warning 'for misconduct' from the Match Official" for which at least one of the offences was directed at the Match Official(s).	2-week suspension	5-week suspension	See misconduct 3.22
3.14A	Dismissed or reported for persistent misconduct "after receiving a warning 'for misconduct' from the Match Official" for which at least one of the offences was directed at a Match Official under the age of 18	4-week suspension	10-week suspension	See misconduct 3.22
3.15	Dismissed or reported for using "Offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures" directed at anyone other than the Match Official(s).	2-week suspension	5-week suspension	See misconduct 3.22



3.16	Dismissed or reported for using "Offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures" directed at the Match Official(s).	4-week suspension	9-week suspension	See misconduct 3.22
3.16A	Dismissed or reported for using "Offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures" directed at a Match Official under the age of 18	8-week suspension	18-week suspension	See misconduct 3.22
3.17	Reported for persisting in "using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures" directed at a Match Official(s) after having been previously reported or dismissed	7-9-week suspension	3-6 months suspension	See misconduct 3.22
3.17A	Reported for persisting in "using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures" directed at a Match Official(s) under the age of 18, after having been previously reported or dismissed	3-6 months suspension	6-9 months suspension	See misconduct 3.22
3.22	Received and found guilty of a third dismissal in a playing season within that League or competition	3-11-month suspension		
Standard Penalties for Misconduct by an Administrator Based on Lifetime Offences				
Type #	Description of Misconduct	First Lifetime Offence	Second Lifetime Offence	Third Lifetime Offence
3.50	Made deliberate physical contact (i.e., pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempts physical contact with Physical Assault or Attempted Physical Assault of a uniformed Grassroots registered Player or youth registered Player. <i>This charge carries an immediate suspension from all soccer activity</i>	3-12-month suspension + \$300.00 fine	1-3-year suspension + \$400.00 fine	Minimum 5-year suspension + \$500.00 fine
3.51	Match Official Assault for "deliberate physical contact (i.e., pushing, pulling, charging, etc.), or attempted physical contact or threatening physical contact". <i>This charge carries an immediate suspension from all soccer activity</i>	6-12-month suspension + \$300.00 fine	1-3-year suspension + \$400.00 fine	Minimum 5-year suspension + \$500.00 fine
3.51A	Match Official Assault (towards a Match Official under the age of 18) for "deliberate physical contact (i.e., pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempted physical contact or threatening physical contact". <i>This charge carries an immediate suspension from all soccer activity</i>	1-3-year suspension + \$400.00 fine	3-5-year suspension + \$500.00 fine	Minimum 7-year suspension + \$600.00 fine
3.52	Match Official Assault for "striking, spitting, kicking, or any form of violent conduct, or attempted violent conduct". <i>This charge carries an immediate suspension from all soccer activity</i>	2-5-year suspension + \$300.00 fine	5-10-year suspension + 400.00 fine	Minimum 10 year suspension \$500.00 fine
3.52A	Match Official Assault (towards a youth aged Match Official) for "striking, spitting, kicking, or any form of violent conduct, or attempted violent conduct".	5-10-year suspension + 400.00 fine	10-12-year suspension + 500.00 fine	Minimum 15-year suspension \$600.00 fine



	<i>This charge carries an immediate suspension from all soccer activity</i>			
3.53	Made deliberate physical contact (i.e., pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempts physical contact with, or threatens, a Registrant or Non-Registrant of Ontario Soccer (excluding a Match Official, or a mini/youth registered Player).	6–12-month suspension	1–3-year suspension	5-year suspension
3.54	Struck, spat on, kicked, or committed any form of violent conduct, or attempted violent conduct, against a Registrant or Non-Registrant of Ontario Soccer (excluding a Match Official, or a mini/youth registered Player).	2–5-year suspension	5–10-year suspension	10-year suspension
3.58	When requested by a Player, refused to give the Player their registration book or ID Card within 5 days	\$100.00 fine	\$200.00 fine	\$400.00 fine
3.61	Failed to attend a discipline hearing	Accused is fined \$100.00 and remains suspended until he/she requests and attends a subsequent discipline hearing		
3.63	Played an ineligible or suspended Player in a sanctioned game or permitted a suspended Player who is suspended from all soccer related activity	3–12-month suspension	1–3-year suspension	2–5-year suspension
3.64	Participated in a soccer activity from which he/she was suspended	6–12-month suspension	1–3-year suspension	2–5-year suspension
3.65	Instigated and/or participated in a brawl between two teams before, during, or after a game.	6–12-month suspension	1–3-year suspension	2–5-year suspension
3.66	Acted in contravention of, or failed to act in accordance with, a “Published Rule.” (see restrictions in Procedure 9.12)	1–6-month suspension	6–12-month suspension	1–3-year suspension
3.67	Acted in a manner deemed to be detrimental to the game. (see restrictions in Procedure 9.12)	3–12-month suspension	1–3-year suspension	2–5-year suspension
3.68	Committed one or more of the following: a) Changed any information on a registration form/game day roster/sheet without the consent of the person being registered on such form. b) Provided false or inaccurate information on a registration form/game day roster/sheet. c) Falsified a signature on a registration form/game day roster/sheet. d) Knowingly provided an invalid photograph of a person for the purpose of registering that person.	3–12-month suspension	1–3-year suspension	2–5-year suspension
3.70	Provided any false contact information on the Player registration form.	1–3-month suspension	6–12-month suspension	1–3-year suspension
3.71	Participated in a soccer related activity under a false name	6–12-month suspension	1–3-year suspension	2–5-year suspension



3.72	Induced or attempted to induce a registered Player to leave their team/Club before the end of that team's current playing season.	6-12-month suspension	1-3-year suspension	2-5-year suspension
3.73	Any Team Official or Administrator dismissed or reported by a Match Official or other Registrant for discriminatory or sexual comments made during a game or in the vicinity of the playing field either before, during or after the game.	6-12-month suspension	1-3-year suspension	2-5-year suspension
3.74	Reported for "using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures" directed at any affected party at a discipline hearing.	3-12-month suspension	1-3-year suspension	2-5-year suspension
3.75	Directly or indirectly encouraged or assisted in the establishment or operation of an unsanctioned soccer organization	6-12-month suspension	18-24-month suspension	3-5-year suspension
3.76	Participated in an organization's decision not to register some, or all of its Players and teams with Ontario Soccer (NOTE: If an Administrator in a governance position is charged with Misconduct Type 3.76, the onus will be on each individual Director to prove that she/he did not support the Club's decision to not register the teams and/or Players.)	12-month suspension	24-month suspension	3-5-year suspension
3.77	Participated in an organization's decision not to register some, or all of its Leagues, Divisions, Coaches and Administrators with Ontario Soccer (NOTE: If an Administrator in a governance position is charged with Misconduct Type 3.77, the onus will be on each individual Director to prove that she/he did not support the Club's decision to not register the teams and/or Players.)	12-month suspension	24-month suspension	3-5-year suspension

Table 4 - Standard Penalties for Misconduct by a Match Official

Type #	Description of Misconduct	First playing seasonal Offence	Second playing seasonal Offence	Third or More playing seasonal Offence
4.15	Used "Offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures" directed at anyone including a Match Official(s).	2-week suspension	3-week suspension	6-12-month suspension
4.41	Failed to conduct himself/herself with dignity both on, and off, the field of play.	\$100.00 - \$200.00 fine	\$250.00 - \$500.00 fine	\$500.00 - \$750.00 fine
4.43	Failed to report to a game (to which he/she has been appointed) without giving prior adequate notice of their inability to officiate such game.	AR & 4 th Officials \$100.00 fine Match Official \$190.00 fine	AR & 4 th Officials \$250.00 fine Match Official \$500.00 fine	AR & 4 th Officials \$500.00 fine Match Official \$750.00 fine



4.43A	Reported to an assigned game late beyond the competitions required time to report without a valid reason.	\$25.00 fine	\$50.00 fine	\$75.00 fine
4.44	Failed to submit a game report to the appropriate Governing Organization within the stipulated time frame after the completion of the game.	\$50.00 fine	\$190.00 fine	\$500.00 fine
4.46	Failed to submit a "Caution Form" for a cautioned Player, a "Dismissal Form" for a dismissed Player, a "Special Incident Report Form" for any special incidents, or a Match Official Assault Report Form for a Match Official Assault	\$200.00 fine	\$500.00 fine	\$1,000.00 fine
Standard Penalties for Misconduct by a Match Official Based on Lifetime Offences				
Type #	Description of Misconduct	First Lifetime Offence	Second Lifetime Offence	Third Lifetime Offence
4.50	Made deliberate physical contact (i.e., pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempts physical contact with Physical Assault or Attempted Physical Assault of a uniformed Grassroots registered Player or youth registered Player. <i>This charge carries an immediate suspension from all soccer activity</i>	3–12-month suspension +\$300.00 fine	1–3-year suspension +\$400.00 fine	Minimum 5-year suspension + \$500.00 fine
4.51	Match Official Assault for "deliberate physical contact (i.e., pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempted physical contact or threatening physical contact". <i>This charge carries an immediate suspension from all soccer activity</i>	6–12-month suspension +\$300.00 fine	1–3-year suspension +\$400.00 fine	Minimum 5-year suspension + \$500.00 fine
4.51A	Match Official Assault (against a Match Official under the age of 18) for "deliberate physical contact (i.e., pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempted physical contact or threatening physical contact". <i>This charge carries an immediate suspension from all soccer activity</i>	1–3-year suspension +\$400.00 fine	3–5-year suspension +\$500.00 fine	Minimum 7-year suspension + \$600.00 fine
4.52	Match Official Assault for "striking, spitting, kicking, or any form of violent conduct, or attempted violent conduct". <i>This charge carries an immediate suspension from all soccer activity</i>	2–5-year suspension + \$500.00 fine	5–10-year suspension + \$500.00 fine	Minimum 10-year suspension
4.52A	Match Official Assault (against a Match Officials under the age of 18) for "striking, spitting, kicking, or any form of violent conduct, or attempted violent conduct". <i>This charge carries an immediate suspension from all soccer activity</i>	5–10-year suspension + \$500.00 fine	10–14-year suspension + \$600.00 fine	Minimum 15-year suspension
4.53	Made deliberate physical contact (i.e., pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempts physical contact	6–12-month suspension	1–3-year suspension	Minimum 5-year suspension



	with, or threatens, a Registrant of Ontario Soccer or a spectator.			
4.54	Struck, spat on, kicked, or committed any form of violent conduct, or attempted violent conduct, against a Registrant of Ontario Soccer or a spectator.	2–5-year suspension	5–10-year suspension	Minimum 10-year suspension
4.55	Publicly criticized any other Match Official or Soccer Organization; made derogatory statements to the media, including across any digital platforms, relating to any game in which he/she was involved concerning the performance of the Players or other Match Officials.	1–3-month suspension	3–12-month suspension	2–5-year suspension
4.58	Officiated an unsanctioned or unaffiliated soccer game.	30-day suspension	3–6-month suspension	1–2-year suspension
4.59	Assigned to a match by persons not authorized to assign the match			
4.60	Failed to attend without a valid reason, a discipline hearing for a person whom the Match Official had reported for Match Official assault or when the penalty is greater than 12 months.	\$250.00 fine	\$500.00 fine	\$1,000.00 fine
4.61	Failed to attend a discipline hearing	Match Official is fined \$100.00 and remains suspended until he/she requests and attends a subsequent discipline hearing		
4.64	Participated in a soccer activity from which he/she was suspended	6–12-month suspension	1–3-year suspension	2–5-year suspension
4.66	Acted in contravention of, or failed to act in accordance with a: District Association, Ontario Soccer or FIFA "Published Rule". (see restrictions in Procedure 9.12)	1–6-month suspension	6–12-month suspension	1–3-year suspension
4.67	Acted in a manner deemed to be detrimental to "the game". (see restrictions in Procedure 9.12)	3–12-month suspension	1–3-year suspension	2–5-year suspension
4.68	Committed one or more of the following: a) Provided false or inaccurate information on a registration form/game day roster/sheet. b) Falsified a signature on a registration form/game day roster/sheet. c) Provided an invalid photograph for registration purposes.	3–12-month suspension	1–3-year suspension	2–5-year suspension
4.70	Provided a false address on the Match Official registration form.	1–3-month suspension	6–12-month suspension	1–3-year suspension
4.71	Participated in a soccer related activity under a false name.	6–12-month suspension	1–3-year suspension	3–6-year suspension
4.72	Accepted a fee of other financial compensation (which is not approved by the League's Governing Organization) or a fee beyond the set guidelines within the standardization of game fees policy.	\$250.00 fine + 2-week suspension from all officiating activities	\$500.00 fine + 4-week suspension from all officiating activities	\$1,000.00 fine + 1 year suspension from



				all officiating activities
4.73	Any Match Official dismissed or reported by a Match Official or other Registrant for discriminatory or sexual comments made during a game or in the vicinity of the playing field either before, during or after the game.	6–12-month suspension + \$200.00 fine	1–3-year suspension + \$400.00 fine	3–6-year suspension + \$800.00 fine
4.74	Reported for "using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures" directed at any affected party at a discipline hearing.	3–12-month suspension	1–3-year suspension	2–5-year suspension
4.75	Directly or indirectly encouraged or assisted in the establishment or operation of an unsanctioned soccer organization or competition	6–12-month suspension	18–24-month suspension	3–5-year suspension

Table 5 - Standard Penalties for Misconduct by a Club

Type #	Description of Misconduct	First playing seasonal Offence	Second playing seasonal Offence	Third or More playing seasonal Offence
5.51	Match Official Assault for "deliberate physical contact (i.e., pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempted physical contact or threatening physical contact" by a Club's spectators or by unidentified Players, Team Officials, Administrators of one of the Club's teams.	\$500.00 fine	\$1,000.00 fine	\$2,000.00 fine
5.51A	Match Official Assault (against a Match Officials under the age of 18) for "deliberate physical contact (i.e., pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempted physical contact or threatening physical contact" by a Club's spectators or by unidentified Players, Team Officials, Administrators of one of the Club's teams.	\$1,000.00 fine	\$2,000.00 fine	\$5,000.00 fine
5.52	Match Official Assault for "striking, spitting, kicking, or any form of violent conduct, or attempted violent conduct" by a Club's spectators or by unidentified Players, Team Officials, Administrators of one of the Club's teams.	\$500.00 fine	\$1,000.00 fine	\$2,000.00 fine
5.52A	Match Official Assault (against a Match Officials under the age of 18) for "striking, spitting, kicking, or any form of violent conduct, or attempted violent conduct" by a Club's spectators or by unidentified Players, Team Officials, Administrators of one of the Club's teams.	\$1,000.00 fine	\$2,000.00 fine	\$5,000.00 fine
5.53	Club failed to prevent its spectators or Players' parents from disrupting a game or for persisting in "using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures" directed at a Match Official(s) or	\$500.00 fine	\$750.00 fine	\$1,500.00 fine + full team suspension from all soccer related activities for 30 days



	any other person that caused the Match Official to make a full stoppage of play.			
5.53A	Club failed to prevent its spectators or players' parents from disrupting a game or for persisting in "using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures" directed at a Match Official(s) under the age of 18 or any other person.	\$500.00 fine	\$1,000.00 fine	\$2,000 fine
5.54	Club failed to prevent its Players, Team Officials or spectators from swarming the Match Official	\$1,000.00 fine	\$2,000.00 fine	\$5,000.00 fine
5.59	Permitted unregistered teams and/or unregistered Players to participate in sanctioned Club competitions.	\$1,000.00 fine	\$1,000.00 fine	\$1,000.00 fine
5.60	Club failed to have a Club Representative or its Registrant attend a Discipline Hearing when that person is required to do so.	\$200.00 fine	\$300.00 fine	\$500.00 fine
5.61	Club failed to attend a discipline hearing at which it is accused of Match Official assault for the actions of its spectators and/or unidentified Players, Team Official, Administrators on one of the Club's teams.	\$500.00 fine	\$1,000.00 fine	\$1,500.00 fine
5.62	Club failed to pay Ontario Soccer Administrative Fee for a Discipline Hearing at which one of its Players, Team Official, Administrators or the Club itself has been found to be guilty of a charge of Match Official assault.	a)	\$100.00 penalty assessed to Club;	
		b)	if \$200.00 admin fee + \$100.00 penalty is not paid by Club within 60 days after hearing, the Club will assess another \$100.00 penalty and will be suspended from all soccer activities until the \$400.00 is paid	
5.63	Played an ineligible Player on one of its teams in a game.	The Club's team will forfeit all of the games in which an ineligible Player played and the Club is fined \$500.00		
5.64	Participated in a soccer activity from which the organization was suspended	\$500.00 fine	\$750.00 fine	\$1,000.00 fine
5.65	(One of its teams) participated in an unsanctioned competition.	\$500.00 fine	\$750.00 fine	\$2,000.00 fine
5.66	Acted in contravention of, or failed to act in accordance with "Operational Procedures." (see restrictions in Operational Procedure 9.12)	\$500.00 fine	\$1,000.00 fine	\$2,000.00 fine
5.67	Acted in a manner deemed to be detrimental to the game. (see restrictions in Operational Procedure Section 12, 9.12)	\$1,000.00 fine + \$2,000.00 bond	\$3,000.00 fine + \$5,000.00 bond	\$5,000.00 fine + \$10,000.00 bond
5.68	Committed one or more of the following:	\$1,000.00 fine	\$2,000.00 fine	\$4,000.00 fine
	a) Changed any information on a registration form/game day roster/sheet without the consent of the person being registered on such form. b) Provided false or inaccurate information on a registration form/game day roster/sheet.			



	<p>c) Falsified a signature on a registration form/game day roster/sheet.</p> <p>d) Registered an individual in Ontario Soccer's registration system without the signature of that individual or parent/guardian on a Player Registration Form.</p> <p>e) Provided an invalid photograph of a person for the purpose of registering that person.</p>			
5.69	Did not identify the correct person responsible for an incident in which the accused was mistakenly identified.	\$500.00 fine	\$750.00 fine	\$1,000.00 fine
5.70	Game is abandoned due to the action(s) of its Players, Team Officials, Administrators or spectators and such action(s) are warranted as valid reason(s) for abandoning the game.	\$500.00	\$750.00	\$1,000.00
		<p>a) In addition, if the abandoned game occurred in an Ontario Cup game, the team is ineligible to enter the Ontario Cup in the subsequent year.</p> <p>b) In addition, if the abandoned game occurred in an out-of-province tournament, the team is ineligible to travel to out-of-province for one year.</p>		
5.72	One of its Team Officials or Administrators was found guilty of inducing or attempting to induce a registered Player to leave their team/Club before the end of that team's current playing season.	\$1,000.00 fine	\$2,000.00 fine	\$3,000.00 fine
5.73	Any Player, Team Official, Administrator or Club spectator found guilty of discriminatory or sexual comments made during a game or in the vicinity of the playing field either before, during or after the game	\$500.00 fine	\$1,000.00 fine	\$2,000.00 fine
5.75	Directly or indirectly encouraged or assisted in the establishment or operation of an unsanctioned soccer organization or competition	\$1,000.00 fine	\$3,000.00 fine	\$5,000.00 fine
5.77	Did not register all of its Teams, Team Officials and Players with Ontario Soccer	\$500.00 fine for each team not registered or \$500.00 fine for each 14 Players not registered, whichever is less	\$1,000.00 fine for each team not registered or \$1,000.00 fine for each 14 Players not registered, whichever is less	\$2,000.00 fine for each team not registered or \$2,000.00 fine for each 14 Players not registered, whichever is less
5.78	Did not register all of its Leagues, Divisions, and Administrators with Ontario Soccer	\$200.00 fine for each League, Division, & Administrator not registered with Ontario Soccer	\$350.00 fine for each League, Division and Administrator not registered with Ontario Soccer	\$500.00 fine for each League, Division and Administrator not registered with Ontario Soccer



Table 6 - Standard Penalties for Misconduct by a League

Type #	Description of Misconduct	First playing seasonal Offence	Second playing seasonal Offence	Third or More playing seasonal Offence
6.59	Permitted unregistered teams and/or unregistered Players to participate in sanctioned competitions.	\$1,000.00 fine	\$2,500.00 fine	\$5,000.00 fine
6.64	Participated in a soccer activity from which the League/organization was suspended	\$250.00 fine	\$500.00 fine	\$1,000.00 fine
6.66	Intentionally acted in contravention of, or failed to act in accordance with, a published Rule. (see restrictions in Procedure 9.12)	\$500.00 fine	\$1,000.00 fine	\$2,000.00 fine
6.67	Acted in a manner deemed to be detrimental to the game. (see restrictions in Procedure 9.12)	\$1,000.00 fine + \$2,000.00 bond	\$3,000.00 fine + \$5,000.00 bond	\$5,000.00 fine + \$10,000.00 bond
6.68	Committed one or more of the following: a) Changed any information on a registration form/game day roster/sheet without the consent of the person being registered on such form. b) Provided false or inaccurate information on a registration form/game day roster/sheet. c) Falsified a signature on a registration form/game day roster/sheet.	\$500.00 fine	\$1,000.00 fine	\$2,000.00 fine
6.74	Failure to abide by Ontario Soccer published maximum Match Official game fees policies.	\$1,000.00 fine	\$2,000.00 fine	\$3,000.00 fine + operation of League subject to withdrawal
6.75	Directly or indirectly encouraged or assisted in the establishment or operation of an unsanctioned soccer organization or competition	\$1,000.00 fine	\$3,000.00 fine	\$5,000.00 fine

Table 7 - Standard Penalties for Misconduct by a District Association

Type #	Description of Misconduct	First playing seasonal Offence	Second playing seasonal Offence	Third or More playing seasonal Offence
7.59	Permitted unregistered teams and/or unregistered Players to participate in sanctioned competitions.	\$1,000.00 fine	\$2,500.00 fine	\$5,000.00 fine
7.64	Participated in a soccer related activity during a period in which the organization was "suspended from all soccer related activities."	\$1,000.00 fine	\$3,000.00 fine	\$5,000.00 fine
7.66	Intentionally acted in contravention of, or failed to act in accordance with, a "Published Rule." (see restrictions in Procedure 9.12)	\$1,000.00 fine	\$3,000.00 fine	\$5,000.00 fine
7.67	Acted in a manner deemed to be detrimental to the game. (see restrictions in Procedure 9.12)	\$1,000.00 fine + \$2,000.00 bond	\$3,000.00 fine + \$5,000.00 bond	\$5,000.00 fine + \$10,000.00 bond



7.68	Committed one or more of the following: a) Changed any information on a registration form/game day roster/sheet without the consent of the person being registered on such form. b) Provided false or inaccurate information on a registration form/game day roster/sheet. c) Falsified a signature on a registration form/game day roster/sheet.	\$500.00 fine	\$1,000.00 fine	\$2,000.00 fine
7.75	Directly or indirectly encouraged or assisted in the establishment or operation of an unsanctioned soccer organization or competition	\$1,000.00 fine	\$5,000.00 fine	\$10,000.00 fine
7.82	Failed to provide the required "case information" within the required time-frames about: a) a Match Official Assault Case b) Ontario Cup discipline referred to the District Association	\$100.00 fine	\$100.00 fine	\$100.00 fine

PROCEDURE 10.0 - FEES, FINES, BONDS AND ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS

- 10.1** Fees, Fines and Bonds levied by any organization shall be in accordance with the Standard Penalties for Misconduct in Operational Procedure 9.0
- 10.1.1** The "Schedule of Fees and Financial Penalties" outlined in Operational Procedure 11.0 is applicable only to cases handled by an Ontario Soccer Discipline Panel and are mandatory amounts. Fines and Bonds for cases of misconduct are as outlined in Tables 1-7 in Operational Procedures 9.16.
- 10.2 Schedule of Fees, Fines, Bonds and Penalties**
- 10.2.1** Each Governing Organization shall define the amounts for its own "Schedule of Fees and Financial Penalties" to be implemented in discipline under its jurisdiction and shall include such schedule in its "Published Rules."
- 10.3 Discipline Hearing Administrative Fees**
- 10.3.1** The \$300.00 "Administrative Fee" levied to the Club found guilty of Match Official assault, shall be disbursed as follows: District Association acting on behalf of Ontario Soccer and having appointed the Discipline Hearing panel, shall retain \$2000.00 and remit \$100.00 to Ontario Soccer.
- 10.4 Bonds**
- 10.4.1** A Bond may be levied at the discretion of a Governing Organization for a specified period of time and purpose. There will be no interest paid to the person or organization required to submit the bond and this shall be so stated.
- 10.5** Any Registrant failing to pay a fine, fee or bond imposed by a Discipline Hearing / Review Panel shall be subject to an additional monetary penalty and if still unpaid, shall be subject to suspension and shall remain under suspension until the imposed penalty (plus the original fee, fine, bond) is paid.



PROCEDURE 11.0 – ONTARIO SOCCER DISCIPLINE HEARINGS SCHEDULE

- 11.1 Discipline related to the following Ontario Soccer programs fall under the jurisdiction of Ontario Soccer:
1. Ontario Player Development League (OPDL)
 2. Ontario Cup (OC)
- 11.2 Discipline by Review is to be conducted by each program and reported to Ontario Soccer within specified timelines.
- 11.3 All Discipline by Hearing for these programs will be conducted by each program's discipline panel and shall convene as per the scheduled hearing dates or as communicated by the program.
- a) Changes to the posted schedule of hearings will be communicated as necessary
 - b) Discipline hearings under the jurisdiction of these Ontario Soccer programs may convene at times other than those scheduled and shall take place as needed with appropriate notice given to all involved.
 - c) At the discretion of Ontario Soccer, Discipline Hearings of these programs may be conducted remotely via communications technology that is approved by the panel. Where permission to attend a hearing via such communication technology is not expressly approved, attendance in person is assumed to be required by all parties involved.
- 11.4 Rights to Appeal to Ontario Soccer's Discipline & Appeals committee must be provided with the decision of all discipline hearings decisions, conducted by these programs.



SECTION 13 - APPEALS

PROCEDURE 1.0 – PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this appeals procedure is to enable disputes with *Registrants and Registered Organizations* to be dealt with fairly, expeditiously and affordably, within Ontario Soccer without recourse to external legal procedures.

PROCEDURE 2.0 - SCOPE AND APPLICATION

- 2.1 Any *Registrant* and/or Registered Organization, the Accused or Victim of the accused who is directly affected by a decision of a Governing Organization or of anybody or individual who has been delegated authority to make decisions on behalf of the Governing Organization, will have the right to seek *Leave to Appeal* of that decision to the next higher Governing Organization.
- 2.2 This operational procedure will not apply to decisions relating to:
- a) Matters of employment;
 - b) Infractions for doping offences, which are dealt with pursuant to the Canadian Anti-Doping Program
 - c) The FIFA Laws of the Game,
 - d) Discipline matters and penalties imposed under the Discipline by Review (DBR) System if the accused opted to accept the standard penalty and did not request a Discipline Hearing,
 - e) Matters relating to the substance, content and establishment of team selection criteria,
 - f) Volunteer appointments and the withdrawal of those appointments by the Board of Directors,
 - g) Matters of budgeting and budget implementation,
 - h) Matters of operational structure and committees,
 - i) This operational procedure will not apply to any matters which should be dealt with under Ontario Soccer's Dispute Resolution Policy
 - j) The selection or non-selection of any organization, team, Team Official, Match Official, and/or Player to any Ontario Soccer program, League, and/or member association.
 - k) Matters of discipline and/or complaints that have not gone through the appropriate avenues of resolution and been provided with Rights to Appeal to Ontario Soccer.
- 2.3 If there is an outstanding fine, fee, bond or penalty related to the decision being appealed that has not been paid prior to the submission of an appeal, the appeal will not proceed except under Operational Procedure 2.4.
- 2.4 When an appeal is filed on the basis that the monetary fine, fee, bond or penalty is excessive, then an amount of the lesser of the fee/fine or \$500.00 will be paid in trust to the next higher Governing Organization together with the normal appeal fee and the appeal process will proceed. If the appeal is upheld, the amount paid will be refunded to the Appellant, if the appeal is denied the amount paid will be applied to the fee/fine with the balance to be paid forthwith to the Governing Organization which levied the fine, fee, bond or penalty being appealed.



PROCEDURE 3.0 - JURISDICTION OF APPEALS

Levels of Appeals for Decisions made by each Jurisdictional Level									
Organization	Ontario Soccer	District Association	Provincial League or Program (L10, OPDL & PISL)	Regional League	District Comp. League (governed by Ontario Soccer)	District Comp. League (governed by District Association)	District Rec. League or District Dev. League	Club	Local League or Local Rec. League
"1st Level of Appeal" for decision made by this organization	Canada Soccer	Ontario Soccer Appeals Comm.	Ontario Soccer Appeals Comm.	Ontario Soccer Appeals Comm.	Ontario Soccer Appeals Comm.	District Assoc.	District Assoc.	District Assoc.	Club
"2nd Level of Appeal" for decision made by this organization		Canada Soccer	Canada Soccer	Canada Soccer	Canada Soccer	Ontario Soccer Appeals Comm.	Ontario Soccer Appeals Comm.	Ontario Soccer Appeals Comm.	District Assoc.
"3rd Level of Appeal" for decision made by this organization						Canada Soccer	Canada Soccer	Canada Soccer	Ontario Soccer Appeals Comm.
"4th Level of Appeal" for decision made by this organization:									Canada Soccer

PROCEDURE 4.0 - SUBMISSION AND TIMING OF APPEAL

- 4.1** Registrants and/or Registered Organizations who wish to seek *Leave to Appeal* a decision will have fourteen (14) days from the date on which they received notice of the decision together with their rights of appeal, to submit in writing the following: (Note: this is for appeals to Ontario Soccer only)
- 4.2** Decisions may only be appealed, and appeals may only be heard, upon the following grounds:
- The decision made is beyond the authority and jurisdiction of the decision maker as set out in applicable governing documents.
 - New facts now available that were not in existence or could not have been discovered by due diligence when the decision was made.
 - The decision maker failed to properly interpret the relevant Published Rules.
 - The decision maker failed to follow procedures as described in the relevant Published Rules.
 - The decision was influenced by bias, where bias is defined as a lack of neutrality to such an extent that the decision-maker is unable to consider other views.
The decision is excessive of the guidelines established related to fines, fee, penalties or bonds
- 4.3** If the requirements of Procedure 4.1 are not met within the 14-day period, the request will be ruled out of order and will not be heard.
- 4.4** Any party wishing to initiate *Leave to Appeal* beyond the 14-day period must provide a written request stating reasons for an exemption to the requirement of Procedure 4.1. The decision to allow, or not allow *Leave to Appeal* outside the 14-day period will be at the sole discretion of the Governing Organization's Appeals Committee's Administrator or Disposition Manager and may not be appealed.



- 4.5 The *Governing Organization* receiving the request for *Leave to Appeal* is required to advise all affected parties about the requests which are to be considered-and to provide them with a copy of all relevant documents per *Procedure 4.1*.
- 4.6 The appeal fee will be refunded to the Appellant excluding the outlined administrative fees if the appeal is successful. Administrative fees as outline in Ontario Soccer’s Schedule of Fees and Financial Penalties will be applied to the appropriate party based on the outcome of the appeal.

PROCEDURE 5.0 - SCREENING OF APPEAL

- 5.1 The Governing Organization will appoint a Disposition Manager and Administrator to oversee the management and administration of appeals submitted in accordance with this Procedure. The same person may be appointed as both the Disposition Manager and Administrator.

The Administrator will:

- a) Implement this Procedure in a timely manner;
- b) Determine if appeals are brought in a timely manner;
- c) Appoint the tribunal to hear appeals;
- d) Coordinate all administrative aspects of the appeal;
- e) Provide administrative assistance and logistical support to the tribunal as required; and
- f) Provide any other service or support that may be necessary to ensure a fair and timely appeal proceeding.

The Disposition Manager will:

- a) Implement this Procedure in a timely manner;
- b) Determine whether leave to appeal will be granted based on the requirements of Policy 4.0;
- c) Determine if the appeal lies within the jurisdiction of this Policy;
- d) Determine if appeals are brought on permissible grounds; and
- e) Determine the format of the appeal hearing.

- 5.2 Upon receiving the request for *Leave to Appeal* and the Administrator determined the appeal was brought in accordance operational procedures, the Disposition Manager will review the appeal, determine whether or not there are grounds for an appeal and prepare a disposition for, and to be signed by, a member of the Discipline and Appeals Committee who will not have any further involvement in the appeal.
- 5.3 If it is determined that there are sufficient grounds for the appeal to be heard or considered, the Administrator will provide the Respondent a copy of the appeal and supporting documents/evidence and request a written response and all supporting documents/evidence to be received within the time-line established by the Administrator. If the Disposition Manager, at its sole discretion, is satisfied that there are no grounds for an appeal based on the requirements of Procedure 4.0, all parties will be notified in writing, stating reasons.
- 5.4 If the Respondent fails to return a written response and/or supporting documents/evidence, the appeal will proceed, nonetheless.

PROCEDURE 6.0 – AFFECTED PARTIES

- 6.1 The filing of an appeal shall not affect the decision being appealed until the decision of the *Appeal Hearing Panel* is released, unless otherwise stipulated in an Ontario Soccer Governing Document.



- 6.2** Any individual or organization that is involved with, or could be *directly affected by a decision* of the Panel will, upon the discretion of the Appeal Hearing Panel, Disposition Manager or Administrator, be granted status as a party, and that party will be bound by the decision of the Panel subject to their rights of appeal to the next higher *Governing Organization*.
- 6.3** Individuals or organizations granted party status will have the right to request and receive a copy of all submitted materials, and an opportunity to respond and present submissions, written or oral, as applicable within the time limit specified by the panel.

PROCEDURE 7.0 - APPEAL HEARING PANEL

- 7.1** If the Disposition Manager and a member of the Discipline and Appeals Committee is satisfied that there are sufficient grounds for an appeal, the Case Manager will establish an *Appeal Hearing Panel* (hereafter referred to as the "Panel" as follows:
- a) The Case Manager will appoint a Panel comprised of three persons who hold current discipline chair designation, and have no significant relationship with the affected parties, will have had no involvement with the decision being appealed, and will be free from any other actual or perceived bias or conflict.
 - b) The Case Manager will appoint one certified person to act as Chairperson.
 - c) The appointed Appeals Committee member responsible for determining if leave to appeal is granted will not sit on the Panel.

PROCEDURE 8.0 - PROCEDURE FOR DOCUMENTARY APPEAL

- 8.1** Where the Disposition Manager and a member of the Discipline and Appeals Committee have determined that the appeal will be held by way of documentary submissions, it will govern the appeal by such procedures as it deems appropriate provided that:
- a) The Appellant's appeal and all supporting evidence is disclosed to the Respondent;
 - b) The Respondent is provided an opportunity to submit a Respondent's Response Document, which will be disclosed to the Appellant;
 - c) The Appellant will be provided with an opportunity to submit a rebuttal document;

In the case that the Appellant's written rebuttal introduces new information, as determined by the Case Manager and/or Administrator, the Respondent will be provided an opportunity to submit an additional Respondent's Response responding to the new information. If it is determined by the Case Manager and/or Administrator that an additional Respondent's Response is required, the Administrator will notify the parties.

PROCEDURE 9.0 - PROCEDURE FOR THE APPEAL HEARING

- 9.1** Where the Panel has determined that the appeal will be held by way of oral hearing, the Panel will govern the appeal by such procedures as it deems appropriate provided that:
- a) The Appellant's appeal and all supporting evidence is disclosed to the Respondent;
 - b) The Respondent is provided an opportunity to submit a Respondent's Response Document, which will be disclosed to the Appellant;
 - c) The Appellant will be provided with an opportunity to submit a rebuttal document;
 - d) In the case that the Appellant's written rebuttal introduces new information, as determined by the Case Manager and/or Administrator, the Respondent will be provided an opportunity to submit an additional Respondent's Response responding to the new information.
 - e) The hearing will be held on the date established by the Administrator;
 - f) The Appellant and Respondent will be given 7 days written notice of the date, time and place of the hearing, unless the Parties agree to waive the notice requirement;



- g) A quorum will be all three Panel members except as provided for in Procedure 9.2. Decisions will be by majority vote, where the Chairperson carries a vote;
- h) Copies of written documents that any of the parties would like the Panel to consider will be provided to the Panel and to all other parties at least 5 days prior to the hearing by the Governing Organization convening the appeal, unless determined otherwise by the Administrator, Case Manager and/or the Panel;
- i) A representative or advisor, including legal counsel may accompany any of the parties. Legal counsel should be reminded that the hearing is not a court of law and will be conducted per Ontario Soccer Policies and Procedures;
- j) The Panel may direct that any other person participates in the appeal;
- k) Parties are entitled to bring witnesses in person to submit evidence to the Panel;
- l) A person less than eighteen years of age who is an Appellant must be accompanied by an adult who will act as an adviser, failing which the appeal will not be heard and will be rescheduled;
- m) Unless otherwise agreed by the parties, there will be no communication between the Panel and the parties.

- 9.2** Where insufficient notice (less than 7 days) for the hearing is given and/or less than three Appeal Panel members, but no less than two (2) Appeal Panel members, appear for the hearing, the following procedures will apply:
- a) If there are less than three Appeal Panel members, the parties to the Appeal will be required to sign the appropriate waiver form consenting to proceed with the appeal hearing with a panel of two members;
 - b) If no objection about insufficient notice is raised at the appeal hearing by any party, the hearing will proceed in the normal manner;
 - c) If any party raises an objection about insufficient notice, the parties to the Appeal will be required to sign the appropriate waiver form consenting to proceed with the appeal hearing without proper notice;
 - d) Should any party object to the continuation of the hearing because of insufficient notice and/or lack of three panel members, and refuse to sign the waiver, the Chair will have this recorded in the Minutes and will adjourn the hearing.
- 9.3** Any party required to attend a hearing may request one (1) postponement of a hearing. The party shall submit a written request including the correct fee in the form of a recorded payment that must be received by the Governing Organization no later than four (4) days prior to the date of the hearing, stating the reason for requesting the postponement. The Governing Organization will have full discretion to allow the postponement or to deny the request.
- 9.4** In order to keep costs to a reasonable level the Panel may conduct the appeal by means of a telephone conference.
- 9.5** At the start of the Hearing, all parties shall be brought into the hearing room. The Recording Secretary shall record the names and status of all attendees.
- 9.6** The Appellant shall be allowed to amplify or qualify each point of appeal deemed relevant by Disposition Manager and a member of the Discipline and Appeals Committee. The Respondent shall be given the opportunity to give their position on each of their points responding to the appeal deemed relevant. At this time, any witnesses will be asked to leave the room prior to any discussion taking place.
- 9.7** Witnesses shall be brought back in one at a time at the request of either party or the Panel. If a witness is appearing for the Appellant, the Appellant shall be given the opportunity to ask the first question. After giving testimony, the witness shall remain in the room. If they insist on leaving, the Panel must ensure that they leave the building and not speak to any other witnesses that have still to be heard.



- 9.8** The Appellant, Respondent and any Affected Parties shall be given the opportunity to present final comments, after which the Chair shall declare the hearing recessed. At this time all but the Panel Members shall leave.
- 9.9 Audio Visual Technology**
- 9.9.1** Tape recorders may be used by any party at Appeal Hearings. All persons participating in the hearing shall be advised that the hearing is being taped.
- 9.9.2** Videotape evidence is acceptable provided it substantiates verbal evidence given by any party. Videotape evidence that simply seeks to show errors made by a Match Official shall be ruled out of order and not considered. Videotape evidence that shows possible errors in identification by the Match Official shall be allowed.

PROCEDURE 10.0 - ATTENDANCE AT APPEAL HEARING

- 10.1** The Appellant and the Respondent and, where applicable, Affected Party must attend the hearing. Anyone representing any of the parties at an Appeal Hearing must provide a signed proxy before being allowed to participate at a hearing.
- 10.2** Failure to attend an appeal hearing when required without a good and sufficient reason.
- a) An Appellant in an Appeal will lose the appeal
- b) A Respondent or Affected Party will lose the right to argue against the decision being appealed. The Appeal Hearing will proceed based on the documentation pertaining to the Respondents original decision but without the Respondent's or the Affected Party's response to the appeal being considered in any way.
- 10.3** The Appellant, Respondent and where applicable, the Affected Party shall have standing at the Appeal Hearing and will be entitled to ask questions and make statements relevant to the appeal.
- 10.4 Advisers**
- 10.4.1** An adviser is a person 18 years of age or older who provides advice to any party required to attend an Appeal Hearing; and may not act as a witness nor provide any testimony at an Appeal Hearing. They may not question the competence of a Match Official and may question a witness for clarification purposes only.
- 10.4.2** The Chair of the Appeal Hearing Panel shall notify any advisers present that the hearing will be conducted strictly in accordance with Ontario Soccer "Governing Documents."
- 10.5 Observers**
- 10.5.1** Each party required to attend an Appeal Hearing is entitled to have a maximum of two observers in attendance at the Appeal Hearing in order to ensure that a specific party receives a fair hearing. They may not act as a witness nor provide testimony. But may speak at the discretion of the Panel
- 10.6** Club Representative, OSRA or Local Referee Association Representative, League Representative
- 10.6.1** Each Club/OSRA/Local Referee Association is entitled to send one (1) representative to an Appeal Hearing at which one of its Players, Coaches, Match Officials or Administrators is the Appellant and also when the Match Official is involved in a Match Official Assault. A Club is required to send a representative in the case of Match Official assault. The representative may act as an adviser at the hearing.
- 10.6.2** A Club/OSRA/Local Referee Association representative may not act as a witness nor provide any testimony at the Appeal Hearing but may be required to answer questions posed by the Panel.



10.7 Witnesses

- 10.7.1** Each party required to attend an Appeal Hearing is entitled to bring witnesses. Witnesses must appear in person. Written reports by witnesses are not acceptable.
- 10.7.2** There is no limit to the number of witnesses allowed, but they must add new testimony and the Hearing Panel can limit testimony when it becomes repetitious.

PROCEDURE 11.0 - APPEAL DECISION

- 11.1** Within 10 days of concluding the appeal, the Panel will issue its written decision, with findings and the Rights of Appeal. The decision should include the following points:
- a) Issue to be decided
 - b) Background to the case
 - c) Statement of the facts
 - d) Authorities considered
 - e) Decision
 - f) Reasons for decision
 - g) Rights of Appeal information
- 11.2** In making its decision, the Panel will have no greater authority than that of the original decision-maker. Panel may decide:
- a) To reject the appeal, forfeit the appeal fee and confirm the decision being appealed; or
 - b) To uphold the appeal and refer the matter back to the initial decision-maker for a new hearing except in the case where the initial decision maker did not have jurisdiction to make the decision, in which case the appeal may be upheld and returned to a competent jurisdiction to be reheard; or
 - c) To uphold the appeal and vary the decision; and
 - d) To determine how costs of the appeal, excluding legal fees and legal disbursements of any of the parties, will be allocated, if at all.
 - e) To refund the appeal fee to the Appellant (net of administration fee) where the appeal is upheld and to charge the appropriate administrative fee to the Respondent as shown in the Governing Organization's schedule of Fees, Fines, Bonds and Penalties
- 11.3** Fees, fines, bonds and penalties levied will be in accordance with the "Schedule of Fees, Fines, Bonds and Penalties" of the applicable Governing Organization.
- 11.4** The decision will be considered a matter of public record. A copy of the decision together with the findings will be provided to each of the affected parties but the minutes may only be given to the Governing Organization.
- 11.5** The decision of the Panel will be final and binding on the parties and on all members of Ontario Soccer, subject only to the provisions of the next higher governing body's Appeal Policy.
- 11.6** Where the appeal is upheld, the appeal fee shall be refunded to the Appellant (net of administration fee) and an "Appeal Hearing Administrative Fee" shall be charged to the Respondent. The amount of the "Appeal Hearing Administrative Fee" shall be published by the Governing Organization hearing the appeal.
- 11.7 Failure of an Appeal Hearing Panel to render a written decision**
- a) If a written decision is not rendered by the Appeal Hearing Panel within the timeframe specified by the Governing Organization under whose authority the appeal was heard, the Appellant may request that the next higher Governing Organization rehear the appeal without payment of any further appeal fees. This "Request for Leave to Appeal" must be made in writing in accordance with Policy 4.0 but within twenty-five days of the original hearing date.



- b) The delinquent Governing Organization will be charged with acting in contravention of a Policy and or Operational Procedure and required to attend a Discipline Hearing.
- c) All costs will be charged to the delinquent Governing Organization.

PROCEDURE 12.0 - APPEALS OF PLAYING-OUT DECISIONS

- 12.1** An appeal by a Club against a decision of a District Association on "Playing-Out Rights" shall be judged strictly in accordance with the District Association's "Playing-Out Criteria" as filed with Ontario Soccer.
- 12.2** A District Association which does not have an approved "Playing-Out Criteria" with Ontario Soccer, will have any appeals against its decision(s) judged strictly in accordance with the "Ontario Soccer Playing-Out Criteria".
- 12.3** In considering any appeal about Playing-Out Rights, the panel will base its decision entirely on the District Association or Ontario Soccer "Playing-Out Criteria" in effect for that District Association. The Panel will consider:
- a) Procedure re: the "Playing-Out Criteria" in effect;
 - b) Interpretations re: the "Playing-Out Criteria" in effect and
 - c) New information re: the "Playing-Out Criteria" in effect.

PROCEDURE 13.0 - APPEALS REGARDING TRANSFERS

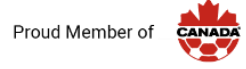
- 13.1** If a Registrant or Registered Organization does not follow the requirements of Registration Operational Procedure with regards to a Player requesting to transfer from one Club to another, the Player submits an appeal. The following procedures would apply:
- a) The District Association shall schedule an appeal hearing to take place no later than twenty-five (25) days after the original notice of intention to transfer. The need to give notice for the appeal hearing in accordance with Procedures in this Appeals Section is waived.
 - b) The District Association shall inform both parties, and notify the Club of its right to contest the appeal.
 - c) The District Association may transfer the Player as soon as the Appeal Hearing has concluded in favour of the Player.
 - d) The District Association may require the Club to pay a fee to contest the appeal.
 - e) Where an appeal has been lodged by a Player, the matter will conclude within thirty days of the date of the Player's written notice of intent to transfer.

PROCEDURE 14.0 - FINANCIAL PENALTIES

- 14.1** Fees, Fines, Bonds, and Penalties levied by an Appeal Hearing Panel shall be in accordance with the "Schedule of Fees, Fines, Bonds and Penalties" of the Governing Organization having jurisdiction in the appeal however the schedule of Fees, Fines, Bonds and Penalties may not be higher than shown on Ontario Soccer Schedule
- 14.2** Fees, Fines and Penalties levied at appeals conducted by Ontario Soccer shall be in accordance with Ontario Soccer's Standard Penalties and Schedule of Fees, Fines, Bonds and Penalties.
- 14.3** If an appeal to Ontario Soccer by an individual or an organization is upheld: a \$750.00 "Appeal Hearing Administrative Fee" is charged to the Respondent and a \$150.00 charge to the Appellant, except when an appeal is upheld based solely on "new facts that were not available when the decision by the Respondent was made".
- 14.4** If an appeal to Ontario Soccer by an individual or organization is ruled out of order in accordance with Appeal Procedure 5.2, a \$150.00 administrative fee will be charged to the appellant.



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