

Extracted from: **FYSA By-Laws & Rules for 2007-2008**

502. DISCIPLINE - GAME CONDUCT

When Discipline/Sanctions are imposed, they must meet the required minimums as specified by FYSA and/or USSF. The Disciplining body must evaluate the incident as to intent, severity and past misconduct to determine the appropriate disciplines/sanctions. More severe disciplines/sanctions shall be imposed for multiple red cards during a season and for misconduct directed towards officials or administrators

502.1 One Game Suspension:

1. Resulting from a second caution; (i.e., persistent infringement or dissent by word or action);
2. Denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goalkeeper within his own penalty area).
3. Denies an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving toward the player's goal by an offense punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick
4. Serious Foul Play is defined as using disproportionate and unnecessary strength in a manner likely to hurt or injure an opponent; any tackle from behind which endangers the safety of an opponent;

502.2 Offensive or insulting or abusive language:

1. 1 (one) game suspension -- Offensive or insulting or abusive language and/or gestures not directed.
2. 3 (three) game suspension -- Offensive or insulting or abusive language and/or gestures directed toward a player, referee, assistant referee, administrator, spectator or game and /or tournament official.
3. 6 (six) game suspension -- Adult directed to a youth referee.

502.3 Violent Conduct:

1. 1 (one) game suspension (minor infractions) -- dead-ball foul that is neither violent or with intent to harm or injure; attempting to strike, hit or punch.
1. 4 (four) game suspension (major infractions) -- is defined as the aggression of a player towards an opponent with clearly no intent to play or fight for the ball; threatening gestures; fighting, hitting, or punching; all gestures with any part of the body which implies visual profanity; any exposure of the anatomy considered lewd and lascivious;
3. 6 (six) game suspension (major infraction) -- Entering a fight in progress or action resulting in law enforcement being called; Entering the field of play and committing any additional offense. (e.g. violent conduct, foul or abusive language—this will be in addition to the sanction for the subsequent violation.)

502.4 Spitting - 4 (four) game suspension:

Spitting is defined as spitting on or at an opponent or another person.

502.5 Any player or coach who receives a second red card/ejection during a seasonal year or a third within two seasonal years for either violent conduct (major infraction with a 4 or 6 game suspension), foul and/or abusive language directed, spitting, or referee abuse, will be immediately suspended for the remainder of the seasonal year. The player/coach may then petition to the Regional Vice President in writing for reinstatement. The Region Vice President will rule on the petition. The fee for this will be \$100.00. Multiple offenses relating to the same red card/ejection will qualify under this rule.

502.6 GAME OFFICIALS

Misconduct toward a referee may include, but it not limited to, all registered referees, assistant referees, forth officials or other duly appointed to assist. It also includes any not licensed, nor register person serving in an emergency capacity as a referee under 3040 and any club assistant referees.

Any act committed before, during, or after a match, even at later times, if it is match related, such as at work or at home may constitute misconduct toward game officials.

502.6.1 REFEREE ABUSE

Referee abuse is a verbal statement or physical act not resulting in bodily contact which implies or threatens physical harm to a referee or the referee's property or equipment.

Abuse includes, but is not limited to, the following acts committed upon a referee; using foul or abusive language toward a referee (must imply a threat of physical harm) , spewing any beverage on a referee's personal property; spitting at (but not on) the referee; verbally threatening a referee with remarks that carry imply or direct threats of physical harm

Verbal threats are remarks that carry the implied or direct threat of physical harm. Such remarks as "I'll get you after the game" or "You won't get out of here in one piece" shall be deemed referee abuse.

Discipline: Minimum sanctions

- a. Six (6) games suspension except;
- b. Spitting at a referee or game official, six (6) games.
- c. An adult upon a youth referee (six month suspension)

502.6.2 REFEREE ASSAULT

Referee assault is an intentional act of physical violence at or upon a referee committed before during, or after a match, even later times if it is match related such as at work or at home. "For the purpose of this rule, "intentional act" shall mean an act intended to bring about a result which will invade the interests of another in a way that is socially unacceptable. Unintended consequences of the are irrelevant." Assault includes, but is not limited to, the following act committed upon a referee: hitting, kicking, punching, choking, spitting on, grabbing or bodily running into a referee; the act of kicking or throwing any object at a referee that could inflict injury; damaging the referee's uniform or personal property (i.e., car, equipment, etc.).

The player, manager, or official committing the referee assault is automatically suspended as follows:

- a. for a minor or slight touching of the referee or the referee's uniform or personal property, at least three (3) months from the time of the assault;
- b. Except as provided in above, for any other assault, at least six (6) months from the time of the assault;
- c. For an assault committed by an adult and the referee is seventeen (17) years of age or younger, at least three (3) years; or
- d. For an assault when serious injuries are inflicted, at least five (5) years.