

## **Player Discipline Procedures**

### **Introduction**

B.A. Soccer Discipline Procedures are developed and administered in the context of the Policies and Procedures for discipline management under the jurisdiction of The Ontario Soccer Association (OSA) and its affiliated organizations, including the Eastern Ontario District Soccer Association (EODSA) and the Gloucester Soccer Association (GSA). Where there is a conflict between the published penalties enumerated in this document and that of one of the governing organizations, then the correct version will be considered that of the higher body. Furthermore, this document in no way attempts to duplicate all OSA discipline management policies and procedures but serves as a summary of key information and rules.

### **Discipline Systems**

There are two discipline systems in place:

1. Discipline by Review (DBR) – no disciplinary hearing unless the accused requests a hearing or for the following types of misconduct: 1.3; 1.5; 1.6.
2. Discipline by Hearing (DBH) – for all other types of misconduct with the exception of the following whereby either system may be used: 1.13; 1.15; 1.17; 1.18; 1.19; 1.20; 1.21; 2.31; 2.33; 3.31; 3.32; 3.33.

### **Table of Misconduct and Penalties**

The full table of penalties is provided for on the [EODSA web site](#). However, the following is a table of the types of misconduct for which B.A.Soccer can issue discipline, and the respective standard penalties.

#### *Misconduct by a player*

Type#	Description of Misconduct	First Seasonal Offense	Second Seasonal Offense	Third Seasonal Offense
1.1	First Caution	No action	n/a	n/a
1.2	Second Caution	No action	n/a	n/a
1.3	Third Caution DBR only	1 Game suspension	n/a	n/a
1.4	Fourth Caution	No Action	n/a	n/a
1.5	Fifth Caution DBR only	2 Game Suspension	n/a	n/a
1.6	Sixth Caution and any subsequent caution DBR only	3 Game Suspension	n/a	n/a
1.13	Dismissed for receiving a second caution in the same game for which neither of the offenses was directed at the Game Official(s). DBR or DBH if requested	1 game Suspension	3 game Suspension	
1.14	Dismissed for "receiving a second caution in the same game" for which at least one of the cautions was directed at the game official(s).	2 game suspension	4 game suspension	8 game suspension
1.15	Dismissed for using offensive, insulting, abusive language and/or gestures directed at anyone other than the game official. DBR or DBH if requested	1 game suspension	3 game suspension	

1.16	Dismissed for "using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures" directed at the game official(s).	3 game suspension	8 game suspension	3 month suspension
1.17	Dismissed for Denying an opponent a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball" DBR or DBH if requested	1 Game Suspension	2 Game Suspension	
1.18	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 a penalty kick." DBR or DBH if requested	2 Game Suspension	4 Game Suspension	
1.19	Dismissed for Serious Foul Play DBR or DBH if requested	2 Game Suspension	4 Game Suspension	
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. DBH only	4-8 Game Suspension	8-12 Game Suspension	
1.20	Dismissed for spitting at an opponent or any other person other than the Game official DBR or DBH if requested	4 Game Suspension	8 Game Suspension	
1.21	Dismissed for Violent Conduct DBR or DBH if requested	3 Game Suspension	6 Game Suspension	
1.21A	Dismissed for "violent conduct" where in the opinion of the Discipline Hearing panel there was an obvious attempt to seriously injure an opponent	6-10 game suspension	10-15 game suspension	
1.22	Received a third dismissal in a season	A discipline hearing shall be conducted and the appropriate discipline shall be rendered:		
1.23	Knowingly played as an ineligible player	4 Game Suspension	6 game suspension	

***If you receive a Red Card and want to request a hearing the following will apply!***

Requesting A Discipline Hearing - If you are dismissed from a game within the League you have 2 days to contact the league to determine the reason for the dismissal and to submit a letter requesting a hearing. The letter must be hand delivered or sent by Registered mail and must be accompanied by the \$50.00 request for hearing fee. If the League indicates that the dismissal was sent to the District the same rules apply: you have 2 days to request a hearing in the same manner indicated above accompanied by the \$50.00 request for hearing fee.

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***Decisions By Review***

If you refer to the Discipline Chart you will see that Decisions By Review (DBR only) occur for most of the Misconducts listed on this chart. If the Misconduct you have committed appears as being done by Review or has (DBH is requested) beside it then you have the right to Request a Hearing please see above section on Requesting a Discipline Hearing.

If you choose to accept the penalty as indicated on the Discipline Chart then you are accepting the suspension or fine and your case will go to Decision By Review.

A three-person panel that will review the case and decide if the individual is guilty or not guilty makes decisions by Review. The Panel will determine in the case of a suspension, which specific games the respective player will miss. The Chairperson of the panel will be responsible for informing the accused of the decision in writing within two days of the review.

The same rules apply for Decisions By Review done at the District Level.

Note that you are not suspended unless the League or the District notifies you that you are suspended.

### ***Filing a Complaint***

If you have a complaint, which you would like to file against a player, coach, referee, please forward the complaint to BA Soccer so that they are aware that you are filing a complaint. The league will then review the complaint and determine if it is within their ability to take action. BA Soccer may only take action if the complaint falls within the Discipline listed on the chart. BA Soccer must forward all referee complaints to the District. Please note that when filing a complaint if the League or District determines that a hearing is warranted then the author of the complaint will be required to attend the hearing. Should the author of the report refuse to attend a Discipline Hearing then the Hearing cannot take place.

### ***Discipline Committee Membership***

Dave Knibbs is the Chair of the Discipline committee unless he delegates another member of the Board. The Head Referee or designate shall serve as an Advisor to the Committee where required.

### ***Suspensions***

If you know that you are going to be suspended either by the District or BA Soccer, you must wait until you are notified of the dates and timelines of your suspension before serving it. If you are going to be suspended for three games you must wait until the league or the District notifies you of the games, which you are going to be suspended from. You should not automatically assume that you are to sit out the next game, as it will not count towards your suspension unless you have been notified it is one of the games for which you are suspended.

Please note that the only exception to being automatically suspended is Game Official Assault. If you have committed Game official Assault you are automatically suspended from all soccer related activity. Additional sanctions and fines would also apply.

Please note that if you are suspended from all soccer related activity you cannot participate in any soccer activities under the realm of the OSA. This includes administering, practicing, coaching, playing, officiating, or any other activity related to soccer under the OSA guidelines.

Please note that when the District suspends you under the Decision By Review system you are charged an administrative fee of \$25.00 this must be paid in order to return to play after a suspension.