

# Disputes and Disciplinary Regulations

8 March 2019

The purpose of these Disciplinary Regulations is to provide a system that sets out procedures, guidelines and penalties for participants who breach the laws of the game and Capital Football policies



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## 1. OBJECTIVES, APPLICATION AND JURISDICTION

- 1.1 These Capital Football Disciplinary Regulations (**Regulations**) provide a system that sets out procedures, guidelines and penalties for Participants who;
  - a) Are charged with misconduct;
  - b) Infringe the Laws of the Game;
  - c) Breach Football Federation Australia (**FFA**) and Capital Football (**CF**) Policies including but not limited to the CF Privacy Policy, CF Social Media, FFA Code of Conduct and FFA Member Protection Policy
- 1.2 These Regulations are supplementary to the FFA National Disciplinary Regulations
- 1.3 In the case of a Regulation being interpreted in two or more different ways, CF reserves the right to determine which interpretation is valid. Any such determination is final and not subject to appeal
- 1.4 CF may choose to enforce a term of these Regulations in some cases, in its absolute discretion, without affecting its right to enforce that term in other cases
- 1.5 These Regulations apply to all Capital Football Competitions, Tournaments, Cup Competitions and Matches and must be read in conjunction with the Competition Regulations. These Regulations may also apply to other competitions and programs administered by Capital Football

## 2. INFRINGEMENT OF THE LAWS OF THE GAME – YELLOW CARDS

- 2.1 A caution (or yellow card) is issued for a minor infringement of the Laws of the Game and is a warning from the referee to a Player during a Match to sanction unsporting behaviour of a less serious nature under the following codes;

Minor infringements - yellow card codes

Y1 is guilty of unsporting behaviour

Y2 shows dissent by word or action

Y3 persistently infringes the Laws of the Game

Y4 delays the restart of play

Y5 fails to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free kick or throw-in

Y6 enters or re-enters the field of play without the Match Official's permission

- 2.2 There is no appeal against the receiving of a yellow card from a referee except as defined in article 4.3 of the FFA National Disciplinary Regulations

### 2.3 Accumulation of Yellow Cards - Premiership Matches

- a) If a Participant receives two (2) yellow cards in a Match, resulting in an R7 red card offence, then the two (2) yellow cards are expunged from the Participant record and do not contribute to the accumulation of yellow cards
- b) If a Participant receives one (1) yellow card in a Match and then receives a direct red card in the same Match, the yellow card will not be expunged from the Participant record and must be considered when accumulating yellow cards

- c) After an individual Participant has received four (4) yellow cards, irrespective of the age-grade in which they are received, the Participant must serve a Mandatory one (1) Match Suspension. The Mandatory one (1) Match Suspension must be served in the age grade or competition in which the accumulated yellow card is accrued. There is no appeal against the one (1) match suspension after receiving four (4) yellow cards
- d) Where no Matches are scheduled in the week following the Match in which the Participant has received (4) yellow cards the one Match suspension is to be served in the next week in which Matches are scheduled
- e) The following table sets out the penalties for the accumulation of yellow cards;

Number of Accumulated Yellow Cards during the Premiership	Mandatory Suspension
4	1 Match
7	2 Matches
10	3 Matches
11	Player to appear before a Disciplinary Committee

#### 2.4 Accumulation of Yellow Cards - Final Series Matches

- a) In Premier League, State League and Masters Competitions there is no accumulation of yellow cards in the Finals Series
- b) However, any Participant who accumulates their 4<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> yellow card in their last Match of the Premiership must serve the applicable suspension in the Final Series of the age grade or competition they accrued their 4<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> yellow card in.

#### 2.5 Accumulation of Yellow Cards - Cup Competitions & Tournaments

- a) Yellow cards issued in Cup Competitions and Tournaments will not count towards the accumulation of yellow cards issued in Premierships and vice versa
- b) For the FFA Cup qualifying rounds the disciplinary provisions relating to the accumulation of yellow cards are outlined in the FFA Cup rules and regulations.
- c) The accumulation of yellow cards for all other Cup Competitions and Tournaments are as per the relevant Cup Competition or Tournament regulations

#### 2.6 Infringements by Team Officials

##### Team Official Yellow Cards

- a) A Team Official Yellow Card is issued by a referee to a Team Official for a cautionable offence specified below.
  - TO-Y1 – Dissent by word or action, including throwing/kicking drinks bottles or other objects, sarcastic clapping or any other action showing disrespect to the match officials.
  - TO-Y2 – Gesturing or acting in a provocative, derisory or inflammatory way.
  - TO-Y3 – Gesturing for a red card or yellow card to be shown
  - TO-Y4 – Clearly/persistently not respecting the confines of the teams Technical Area

TO-Y5 – Deliberately entering the Technical Area of the opposing team (Non-confrontational)

TO-Y6 – Delaying the start of play

TO-Y7 – Showing a lack of respect for the game

TO-Y8 – Persistent/repeated unacceptable behaviour (including repeated warning offences)

- b) A team official that receives two (2) Team official Yellow cards in one match will receive an indirect red card and the two (2) team official Yellow cards will not count towards any accumulation tally.
- c) A Team official that receives one (1) Yellow card and then a direct red card will have the yellow card recorded in the team officials tally.
- d) The accumulation of yellow cards will be reset to zero at the end of the regular season
- e) Refer to clause 2.3 for suspensions for accumulation of Yellow Cards

## **2.7 Application of Temporary Dismissal**

- a) If a Player receives:
  - i. two (2) Temporary Dismissals and one (1) Yellow Card in a Match, resulting in a TDS, then the two (2) Temporary Dismissals are expunged from the Player's record and neither Temporary Dismissal will be considered when accumulating Temporary Dismissal pursuant to section 2.8 but the Yellow Card will be included in the accumulation of Yellow Cards pursuant to sections 2.3 and 2.4; or
  - ii. one (1) Temporary Dismissal and two (2) Yellow Cards in a Match resulting in an R7 Red Card Offence, then the two (2) Yellow Cards are expunged from the Player's record and neither Yellow Card will be considered when accumulating Yellow Cards pursuant to sections 2.3 and 2.4 but the Temporary Dismissal will be included in the accumulation of Temporary Dismissals pursuant to section 2.8.
  - iii. If a Player receives one (1) Yellow Card or one (1) Temporary Dismissal in a Match and then receives a direct Red Card in the same Match, the Yellow Card or Temporary Dismissal will not be expunged from the Player's record and must be considered when accumulating Yellow Cards or Temporary Dismissals pursuant to sections 2.3, 2.4 and 2.8.
  - iv. If a Player receives one (1) Temporary Dismissal and one (1) Yellow Card in a Match and then receives a direct Red Card in the same Match, the Temporary Dismissal and the Yellow Card will not be expunged from the Player's record and must be considered when accumulating Yellow Cards or Temporary Dismissals pursuant to sections 2.3, 2.4 and 2.8.

## **2.8 Accumulation of Temporary Dismissal**

- a) If a Participant receives two (2) Temporary Dismissals in a Match, resulting in an TDS, then the two (2) Temporary Dismissals are expunged from the Participant record and do not contribute to the accumulation of Temporary Dismissals.
- b) If a Participant receives one (1) Temporary Dismissal in a Match and then receives a direct red card in the same Match, the Temporary Dismissal will not be expunged from

the Participant record and must be considered when accumulating Temporary Dismissals.

- c) After an individual Participant has received four (4) Temporary Dismissals, irrespective of the age grade in which they are received, the Participant must serve a Mandatory one (1) Match Suspension. The Mandatory one (1) Match Suspension must be served in the age grade or competition in which the accumulated yellow card is accrued. There is no appeal against the one (1) match suspension after receiving four (4) yellow cards .
- d) Where no Matches are scheduled in the week following the Match in which the Participant has received (4) Temporary Dismissals the one Match suspension is to be served in the next week in which Matches are scheduled
- e) The following table sets out the penalties for the accumulation of Temporary Dismissals;

Number of Accumulated Temporary Dismissals during the Premiership	Mandatory Suspension
4	1 Match
7	2 Matches
10	3 Matches
11	Player to appear before a Disciplinary Committee

### 3. INFRINGEMENT OF THE LAWS OF THE GAME – RED CARDS

3.1 An expulsion (or red card) is issued for a serious infringement of the Laws of the Game and is the order given by a referee to a Participant to leave the vicinity of the field of play and the technical area, including the substitutes bench during a match, under the following codes;

Serious infringements - red card codes

- R1 is guilty of serious foul play
- R2 is guilty of violent conduct
- R3 Biting or spitting at someone
- R4 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 or her own penalty area)
- R5 denies 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
- R6 uses offensive or insulting or abusive language and/or gestures
- R7 receives a second caution in the same Match

3.2 There is no appeal against the receiving of a red card from a referee except as defined in article 4.3 of the FFA National Disciplinary Regulations

3.3 A Participant who is given a red card:

- a) Must leave the field of play and its surroundings, including the technical area during a Match; and
- b) Will receive from the CF Competition Manager or a staff member under the direction of the CF Competition Manager:

- i. a Mandatory Suspension; and
  - ii. a fixed penalty suspension; and/or
  - iii. depending on the grading of the offence, the matter may be referred to the Disciplinary Committee by the CF Competition Manager.
- c) A Player who receives a red card is ineligible to play in any further Matches until such time as they have been issued a notice of suspension, participated in the disciplinary process where required, and served their suspension in full.

**3.4 Expulsion of Participants Other Than Players**

- a) A Participant other than a Player who is expelled from a Match by a referee must serve the minimum Mandatory one (1) Match Suspension in the next available match.
- b) The CF Competitions Manager or Disciplinary Committee may impose further sanctions appropriate to the offence in accordance with the fixed penalty system.
- c) In determining a sanction for such cases, the CF Competitions Manager will seek consistency with similar sanctions for offences committed by Players.

**3.5 Mandatory Suspensions**

- a) A Participant who receives a red card must serve a Mandatory minimum 1 week Suspension
- b) The Mandatory Match Suspension listed in Rule 3.5 c) must be served in the age grade or competition in which the accumulated red card is accrued
- c) A Participant who during the course of a Premiership and/or Finals Series accumulates more than one red card, regardless of the Competition in which it is received, must serve additional Mandatory Suspensions as follows;

Number of Red Cards during Premiership / Finals Series	Additional Mandatory Suspension
2	1 Match
3	2 Matches
4*	3 Matches
5*	4 Matches

\* Capital Football may direct the Participant to appear at a Disciplinary Committee.

**3.6 Fixed Penalty System**

- a) Red cards given in a Match are governed by the fixed penalty system. The Competition Manager will act according to the fixed penalty system and may refer any offence to the Disciplinary Committee
- b) Fixed penalties are set out in Schedule 1

**3.7 Referral to a Disciplinary Committee**

- a) Capital Football may cite a Participant, (including a spectator or club) to appear before a Disciplinary Committee in relation to;
  - i. A red card; or
  - ii. A serious infringement that has escaped the referees attention

- iii. Any incident that Capital Football warrants consideration by the Disciplinary Committee can and will be referred to a Disciplinary Hearing.
- b) Where a Participant has received a red card for an offence and is required to have the matter determined by the Disciplinary Committee, the Competition Manager or the Participant (without admitting to the offence), may request from a chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee an indication of the penalty which may be imposed (including any reduction for an early guilty plea). Such a request must be made within two (2) working days of receipt by the Participant's Club of the report of the Match Official related to the offence and may include:
  - i. The report/s of the Match Official/s;
  - ii. Details of the Participant's disciplinary record; and
  - iii. If the request is made by the Participant – information related to:
    - 1) the reasons which prompted the Participant to commit the alleged infringement;
    - 2) the remorse of the offender; and
    - 3) any Exceptional Circumstances

An indication of a probable penalty will cease to have the effect if the Participant does not plead guilty and accept the penalty proposed within two (2) working days of the date upon which the proposed penalty is communicated to the Participant's Club. If the penalty proposed is not accepted by the Participant the chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee who indicated the proposed penalty shall not be further involved in the matter to which the red card offence relates

- c) A Participant who has received a red card may choose not to accept the red card and elect to have the matter heard by a Disciplinary Committee. A request to have the matter heard must be received by Capital Football no more than two (2) days following notification of the red card
- d) Upon receipt of a request of hearing Capital Football will convene a Disciplinary Committee to hear the matter as soon as practicable
- e) Notwithstanding the lodging of a request for hearing, until the Disciplinary Committee has determined the matter a Player must serve all applicable suspensions
- f) All decisions of the Disciplinary Committee remain in force unless reversed by the Appeals Committee

### **3.8 Infringements by Team Officials**

#### **Team Official Red Cards**

- a) A team Official Red Card is an order given by a referee to a Team Official to leave the field of play, its surrounds and the technical area. This order can be given at any time that a referee is on the field to conduct pre-match inspections or until he/she leaves the field of play
- b) A Team official red card is issued by a referee to a team official for send-off offence as specified below.

TO-R1 – Violent Conduct



TO-R2 – Physical or aggressive behaviour towards an opposing player, substitute, Team Official, Match Official, spectator or any other person (e.g. Security of CF Official)

TO-R3 – Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and or gestures

TO-R4 – Biting and or spitting at anyone

TO-R5 – Entering the Field of Play to:

- Confront a match Official (including half time and full time)
- Interfere with play or an opposing player

TO-R6 – Deliberately leaving the Technical Area to:

- Show dissent towards or remonstrate with a Match Official
- Act in a provocative or inflammatory Manner
- Enter the opposing technical area in an aggressive or confrontational manner

TO-R7 – Deliberately throwing/kicking an object onto the field of play

TO-R8 – 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.

- c) A Team Official Red Card is regarded as indirect if the red card is issued as a result of the issue of two (2) yellow cards. Where a team Official receives an indirect Red Card he or she will serve a mandatory one (1) match suspension.

### **3.9 Temporary Dismissal Suspension (TDS)**

- a) A Player who receives a second Temporary Dismissal in the same Match will serve the Temporary Dismissal in that Match and then take no further part in it. That Player will not be issued with a Red Card by the Match Official but they will be deemed to have received TDS.
- b) There is no appeal against the receiving of a TDS from a referee.
- c) A Participant who is given a second Temporary Dismissal:
- i. Must leave the field of play and its surroundings, including the technical area during a Match; and
    - 1) Will receive from the CF Competition Manager or a staff member under the direction of the CF Competition Manager, a Mandatory 1 match Suspension.
- d) A Player who receives a TDS is ineligible to play in any further Matches until such time as they have been issued a notice of suspension, participated in the disciplinary process where required, and served their suspension in full.

## **4. SERVING OF SUSPENSIONS**

### **4.1 Type of Suspensions**

- a) Capital Football will issue suspensions in terms of either the number of Matches for which a Participant will be suspended (Match Suspension) or the period of time for which a Participant will be suspended (Time Suspensions)
- b) In order to serve a Match suspension as a Player, coach, Club Official or Match Official a Participant needs to be registered with Capital Football
- c) In order to serve a Match suspension as a spectator, or a Time Suspension as any type of Participant, the Participant does not need to be registered with Capital Football

### **4.2 Notice of Suspension**

- a) Capital Football will notify a Participant of any suspension under this clause by 3.00pm on the day prior to the next Match in which the Participant's Club is scheduled to play
- b) Where a Participant is registered or associated with a Club, the notification will be sent to the Club

### **4.3 Time Suspensions**

- a) A time suspension affects a Participant's participation in Eleven-a-side Football, Futsal and Social Football competitions
- b) Participant's issued with a time suspension are ineligible to undertake any football activities for the duration of the suspension, which includes;
  - i. Taking the field as a Player or Match Official in any Match sanctioned or administered by Capital Football
  - ii. Taking a position as a coach, team official or Club Official in any Match or competition sanctioned or administered by Capital Football
  - iii. Entering the field of play, its surrounds, technical area, players race, dressing rooms or other place within a venue on a Match day in a competition sanctioned or administered by Capital Football
  - iv. Entering any venue or ground used for a competition sanctioned or administered by Capital Football.
  - v. Attending any course, function or event sanctioned or coordinated by Capital Football.
  - vi. Fulfilling any duty as a Standing Advisory Committee Member or Regional Representative.

### **4.4 Match Suspensions**

- a) A Match Suspension imposed on a Participant participating in;
  - i. Eleven-a-side Football only affects that Participant's participation in Eleven-a-side Football; or
  - ii. Futsal only affects that Participant's participation in Futsal; or
  - iii. Social Football only effects that Participants participation in Social Football
- b) A Match suspension applies to a Participant in relation to all football activities. I.e. as a player, as a team official and as a referee.
- c) Match suspensions must be served in the Participants next Competition Matches, which include Premiership, Final Series and Cup Competition Matches until the suspension is served in full. For clarity this includes the serving of suspensions from the accumulation of yellow cards (i.e. the next Competition match might be a Premiership or FFA Cup Match)

- d) Match suspensions must be served in the age grade or competition in which they were issued. The Participant remains ineligible to participate in any Match in any age grade until the suspension is served in full
- e) Match suspensions issued for offences committed in Premiership, Finals Series and Cup Competition Matches cannot be served in Tournaments, and vice versa
- f) Match suspensions issued for offences committed in trial Matches must be served in the Participants next trial Matches, Premiership Matches, Cup Competition Matches and Finals Series Matches until such time as the suspension is served in full
- g) A Participant serving a match suspension remains ineligible throughout the match day or round in which they serve their last match suspension
- h) Match suspensions from one season carry over to the next season and apply to the Participants new team in the league they are competing in regardless of the league in which they were issued
- i) A Participant who has a Match suspension carry over from one season to the next is eligible to participate in trial Matches. No more than one (1) carried over suspension can be served in Capital Football sanctioned trial Matches

#### **4.5 Non-selection in Capital Football Representative Teams**

- a) If a Participant has been selected to represent Capital Football in a representative competition or Tournament and is subsequently suspended due to an infringement of the Laws of the Game, Capital Football may decide in its absolute discretion to rescind the offer for that Participant to represent Capital Football
- b) Any decision of Capital Football to suspend a Participant under this article is final and not subject to appeal

#### **5. EFFECT OF ABANDONED MATCHES**

- 5.1 If a suspension is to be served in terms of Matches, only those Matches actually played count towards the execution of the suspension. If a Match is abandoned or forfeited, a suspension is only considered to be served if the team to which the suspended player belongs is not responsible for the facts that led to the abandonment or forfeiture
- 5.2 A yellow card issued during an abandoned Match will be annulled if that Match is replayed and upheld if that Match is not replayed
- 5.3 A red card issued during an abandoned Match will be upheld, regardless of whether the Match is replayed or not

#### **6. MISCONDUCT**

- 6.1 A Participant may be charged by Capital Football, on the basis of provided evidence, with misconduct or bringing the game into disrepute. The matter may be referred to the Disciplinary Committee
- 6.2 Offences considered as misconduct or bringing the game into disrepute are elaborated on in Schedule 3 of these Regulations and within the FFA Code of Conduct
- 6.3 Where a charge of misconduct or bringing the game into disrepute is upheld the following mandatory sanctions apply;
  - a) 1st offence - written warning plus Club \$100 fine
  - b) 2nd offence - Club \$250 fine plus sanction
  - c) 3rd offence - Club \$500 fine plus sanction

- 6.4 Where a matter is referred to the Disciplinary Committee for determination and the charge is upheld, the Committee may impose a sanction within the scope outlined in article 21.4 of the FFA Constitution in addition to the mandatory sanction

## **7. TEAM MISCONDUCT**

- 7.1 Additional disciplinary sanctions may be imposed on a Club for the misconduct of a team when;
- a) Five (5) or more Players are cautioned or sent off during one (1) Match;
  - b) Three (3) or more Players are sent off during one (1) Match
  - c) Several Players together make threats or show force against a Match Official

## **8. BREACH OF CAPITAL FOOTBALL AND FOOTBALL FEDERATION AUSTRALIA POLICIES**

- 8.1 A Participant may be charged by Capital Football, where they have been deemed to have breached Capital Football and/or FFA policies on the basis of provided evidence, with misconduct or bringing the game into disrepute
- 8.2 Procedures and sanctions for breaches of Capital Football and FFA policies are as per those applied for charges of misconduct and bringing the game into disrepute, and as elaborated on within the relevant policy/s
- 8.3 Capital Football treats all written social media postings, blogs, status updates and 'tweets' as public comment. All Capital Football directors, members, Participants, volunteers and staff should not comment or respond to a comment in a way that may be construed as negative or derogatory towards others

## **9. DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS – RULES AND REGULATIONS**

- 9.1 The Disciplinary Committee must comprise a minimum of two (2) and a maximum of three (3) panel members in order to make a valid decision
- 9.2 Disciplinary Committee members will be asked to serve on the proviso that:
- a) No person will serve on a Disciplinary Committee hearing a matter which his/her club has an interest; and
  - b) No Club will have more than one representative on a given Disciplinary Committee
- 9.3 The competition manager will appoint a committee member to act as chairperson
- 9.4 The Disciplinary Committee will:
- a) Sanction a red card
  - b) Sanction a serious infringement that has escaped the referee's attention
  - c) On application from Capital Football rectify an obvious error in the referees disciplinary decision
  - d) Investigate and determine any matter referred to it under these Regulations
  - e) Disciplinary Committee hearings will not be bound by the rules of evidence usually applicable to proceedings in a court of law, but all hearings must be conducted in accord with the principles of natural justice including that the offender has had:
    - i. Reasonable and sufficient detail of the alleged misconduct; and
    - ii. The opportunity to be heard and to make submissions in relation to the alleged misconduct infringement and the sanction imposed

- iii. Any witness that a party intends to call to give evidence in a hearing must remain outside the hearing room until called to give evidence
- iv. There is a rebuttable presumption that the facts contained in any Match Official's report are accurate
- f) Conduct proceedings with as little formality and technicality, and with as much expedition, as the requirements of these Regulations and a proper consideration of the matters before the Disciplinary Committee permit; and record its findings and publish its decision as soon as practicable after the completion of any proceedings

9.5 When determining any appropriate sanction, a Disciplinary Committee may consider:

- a) the nature and severity of the infringement;
- b) the offender's proven past record and whether or not this is a repeat Offence;
- c) the culpability of the offender (including whether or not the infringement was intentional, negligent or reckless);
- d) any reasons prompting the offender to commit an infringement;
- e) the remorse of the offender; and
- f) any Exceptional Circumstances

9.6 When determining any appropriate sanction, the Disciplinary Committee must apply as a minimum the penalties as specified in these Regulations.

9.7 The Disciplinary Committee can make the following findings;

- a) make a finding that the offence has not been proven in which case it may remove any suspension that may have been imposed
- b) make a finding that the offence has been proven in which case the Committee may, in its discretion, increase the fixed penalty or impose any additional sanctions on the Participant as it sees fit
- c) make a finding that the Participant is guilty of a different offence or the same offence as specified in schedule 1 or schedule 2.
- d) make a finding that the Participant is guilty of an offence and at its discretion elect to 'suspend' a portion of the sanction for a set period of time and subject to any other provisions as it sees fit, with the exception of any offence against a match official.

9.8 A determination of the Disciplinary Committee must be a majority decision of the Committee

9.9 The Disciplinary Committee may, in hearing any matter referred to it, call before it any Participant involved in the matter, and shall hear evidence from those persons. A party may attend in person or by phone

9.10 A Participant failing to appear before the Disciplinary Committee after being directed to do so will have the matter heard by the Disciplinary Committee in their absence

9.11 Other persons wishing to appear at a hearing of the Disciplinary Committee may do so only with the consent of the Chair of the Disciplinary Committee, which must be sought prior to the commencement of the hearing

9.12 No Participant may be represented at a hearing of the Disciplinary Committee by legal counsel unless prior approval is sought and granted by the chairperson

- 9.13 The chairperson of a hearing before the Disciplinary Committee may require parties appearing before the Committee to arrive at and depart from the hearing venue according to a time schedule designed to avoid confrontation and require associates of such parties who are not appearing to leave the vicinity of the hearing if their presence is deemed to be potentially intimidating
- 9.14 Capital Football will publish the decisions of the Disciplinary Committee on its website as soon as practicable and such publication shall constitute notification of the Disciplinary Committee's decision

## **10. APPEALS HEARINGS – RULES AND REGULATIONS**

- 10.1 The Appeals Committee must comprise a minimum of two (2) and a maximum of three (3) panel members in order to make a valid decision
- 10.2 Appeals Committee members will be asked to serve on the proviso that:
- a) No person will serve on a committee hearing a matter which his/her club has an interest; and
  - b) Appeals Committee members must not have been on the Disciplinary Committee which made the decision to which the appeal is subject to
- 10.3 The competition manager will appoint a committee member to act as chairperson
- 10.4 Where a Participant seeks to Appeal a decision of the Disciplinary Committee they must:
- a) Lodge a notice stating full details of the appeal and grounds for such within five (5) working days of formal notification of a determination of a Disciplinary Committee. No appeal shall fail solely on the ground that it was not lodged on time if the Appeals Committee is satisfied that there is a reasonable explanation for the delay or that the delay is not the fault of the complainant or appellant
  - b) Lodge the Appeal fee to the Competition Manager when lodging the notice of appeal, which shall be \$500

### **10.5 Submissions**

- a) The appellant must provide to Capital Football any evidence it wishes the Appeals Committee to consider at least three (3) working days prior to the scheduled date of hearing
- 10.6 The Appeals Committee will hear and determine;
- a) Appeals to decisions of the Disciplinary Committee that meet the grounds of appeal
  - b) Appeals to decisions made by Capital Football in applying the Competition Regulations
  - c) Matters referred to it by Capital Football

### **10.7 Grounds of Appeal**

The sole grounds of appeal from a Disciplinary Committee decisions to the Appeals Committee are;

- a) a party was not afforded a reasonable opportunity to present its case
- b) lack or excess of jurisdiction of the Disciplinary Committee
- c) the decision of the Disciplinary Committee was affected by actual bias
- d) the sanction imposed was not within the prescribed authority of the Disciplinary Committee
- e) severity of the sanction imposed, but only where the sanction exceeds;

- i. 6 matches; or
- ii. 3 months; or
- iii. \$3,000
- iv. A loss of 6 competition points or more; or
- v. Exclusion of a Club from a Competition

- 10.8 When determining any sanction resulting from an appeal the Appeals Committee must consider the appropriate range of sanctions as contained in these Regulations, article 21.4 of the FFA Constitution and any other applicable regulations or policies
- 10.9 The Appeals Committee can make the following findings;
- a) Confirm, reduce, rescind, vary or increase any penalty appealed against
  - b) Confirm or alter the decision made by Capital Football in applying the Competition Regulations only where that decision complies with the Competition Regulations (i.e. correcting a misapplication of the Competition Regulations).
  - c) rule, having regard to its assessment of the merits of the appeal and the motives of the appellant, on whether the appeal fee shall be forfeited or refunded, in part or full
- 10.10 A determination of the Appeals Committee must be a majority decision of the Committee
- 10.11 The Appeals Committee may, in hearing any matter referred to it, call before it any Participant involved in the matter, and shall hear evidence from those persons. A party may attend in person or by phone
- 10.12 A Participant failing to appear before the Appeals Committee after being directed to do so will have the matter heard by the Appeals Committee in their absence
- 10.13 Other persons wishing to appear at a hearing of the Appeals Committee may do so only with the consent of the chairperson of the Appeals Committee, which must be sought prior to the commencement of the hearing
- 10.14 No Participant may be represented at a hearing of the Appeals Committee by legal counsel unless prior approval is sought and granted by the chairperson
- 10.15 The chairperson of a hearing before the Appeals Committee may require parties appearing before the Committee to arrive at and depart from the hearing venue according to a time schedule designed to avoid confrontation and require associates of such parties who are not appearing to leave the vicinity of the hearing if their presence is deemed to be potentially intimidating
- 10.16 Capital Football will publish the decisions of the Appeals Committee on its website as soon as practicable and such publication shall constitute notification of the Appeal Committee's decision

## **11. MEDIATION**

- 11.1 In relation to any alleged misconduct, Capital Football may require a Participant to attend a meeting with Capital Football and an independent person who shall act as a mediator for the purpose of attempting to reach agreement as to how such allegations are to be dealt with
- 11.2 Such meeting shall be conducted on a without prejudice basis and the mediator shall have no power to impose any decision on any of the parties
- 11.3 Failure by a Participant to attend such a meeting when requested without reasonable excuse shall amount to misconduct

11.4 Unless agreement is reached at such a meeting and recorded in writing and signed by the parties, Capital Football may in its absolute discretion, decide to refer the allegations of misconduct to the Disciplinary Committee

## 12. USE OF VIDEO AND PHOTO EVIDENCE

12.1 Visual aids including video and photos may be used to support any case presented to the Disciplinary Committee or Appeals Committee, including supporting or refuting written reports submitted as evidence

12.2 Visual aids cannot be used to question the decision of the referee with the exception of correcting an obvious error, which requires;

- a) Application for review by the Competition Manager
- b) A disciplinary decision must have been made by the referee to issue a yellow card or red card
- c) It clearly must have been a wrong decision (such as mistaken identity)
- d) It must not have been a discretionary decision by a referee as to whether an action was a foul or a yellow or red card

## 13. DEFINITIONS & INTERPRETATION

**Additional Suspension** means any suspension in addition to a Mandatory Suspension

**Appeals Committee** means the body responsible for hearing and determining matters pursuant to article 10 of these Regulations

**Capital Football** means the Capital Football, the governing body for football and futsal in the ACT and surrounding region

**Club** means a club registered with FFA and/or Capital Football or admitted to participate in a Capital Football competition. A reference to a Club in these Regulations includes a team where that team is not affiliated to a club

**Club Official** means any person involved with the administration, management or organisation of a Club or teams within it including employees, contractors, directors and volunteers

**Competition** means any competition, Premiership, Finals Series, Cup Competition, Tournament and event administered by Capital Football, excluding friendly matches

**Competition Manager** means CF employee responsible for administration of all competitions

**Competition Regulations** means the relevant Capital Football Competition Regulations

**Cup Competition** means a competition in which teams compete in a series of knockout matches in accordance with Capital Football Competition Regulations, including but not limited to the FFA Cup and Federation Cup

**Disciplinary Committee** means the body responsible for hearing and determining matters pursuant to article 9 of these Regulations

**Eleven-a-side Football** means traditional football and for the purposes of these Regulations includes MiniRoos modified football

**Exceptional Circumstances** means circumstances operating at the time of the offence and relating to the commission of the offence and not to the impact a sanction may have on the Participant. Without limitation, the following are not Exceptional Circumstances:



- a) the significance or importance to the Participant or his Club of the Match in which the offence was committed;
- b) the significance or importance of any Match or Tournament in which the Participant will be ineligible to participate because of the imposition of a sanction within the range at the table of offences;
- c) the point in the Match at which the offence was committed;
- d) the conduct, including actions, words or gestures of any Participant of the opposing team during or related to the Match; and
- e) any disciplinary decision taken or failure to take a disciplinary decision by a Match Official during the Match

**Finals Series** means the Matches held at the conclusion of the Premiership in accordance with the Capital Football Competition Regulations

**Fine** is an amount as determined by Capital Football or the Disciplinary or Appeals Committee

**Friendly Match** is any match sanctioned by Capital Football that is not part of a Competition

**FFA National Disciplinary Regulations** means the National Disciplinary Regulations as administered by Football Federation Australia

**Futsal** means the sport of Futsal as defined in the FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game

**League Manager** means the relevant Capital Football Competition Coordinator for the League and also includes the Competition Manager

**LOTG** means the Laws of the Game as promulgated by FIFA

**Mandatory Suspension** means a suspension which cannot be reviewed or challenged (unless in cases of proven obvious error)

**Match** means any individual game of Football sanctioned, administered or coordinated by Capital Football in a particular age grade

**Match Official** means any of;

- a) referee
- b) assistant referee
- c) 4<sup>th</sup> official
- d) match commissioner
- e) referee assessor
- f) futsal 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> referee
- g) futsal time keeper
- h) game leader
- i) or if no referee or assistant referee has been appointed or officiates at a match any person designated by Capital Football or the Competition Regulations as a Match Official

**Participant** means one or more of the following, whether individually or collectively:

- a) Club Officials
- b) Players;
- c) Spectators;

- d) Club(s);
- e) Match Officials
- f) Team Officials

**Player** means any person who from time to time is registered to a Club or is selected as a representative team player. For the avoidance of doubt during a Match this includes substitutes and substituted Players

**Premiership** means a series of competitive Matches in a league format determined by Capital Football but does not include a pre-season or Finals Series

**Regulations** means the Capital Football Disciplinary Regulations

**Social Football** means the programs and competitions administered and sanctioned by Capital Football other than Eleven-a-side Football, MiniRoos and Futsal. This includes but is not limited to summer football

**Team Official** means Coach, Manager, Team Doctor, Team Physiotherapist, Team Masseuse

**Temporary Dismissal (TD)** means an otherwise cautionable offence for dissent (by action or word) which, in lieu of a Yellow Card, is punished by an immediate suspension from participating in the next ten (10) minutes of the Match. Temporary Dismissals apply only in the following Competitions:

- a) NPL ACT Men's (NPL1 – U20 & 1<sup>st</sup>);
- b) NPL 2 ACT Men's (NPL2 – U20 & 1<sup>st</sup>);
- c) NPL ACT Women's (NPLW – Res & 1<sup>st</sup>);
- d) Capital Football State League Men's (SLM);
- e) Capital Football State League Women's (SLW);
- f) Capital Football Masters League Men's (MLM).

**Tournament** means a competition administered or sanctioned by Capital Football in which teams play a series of round robin matches, sometimes followed by a finals series, over a short period of time separate to the Premiership

**SCHEDULE 1 - FIXED PENALTIES FOR OFFENCE AGAINST PARTICIPANTS**

Offence Grading	Grading Guidelines Offences	Minimum Sanctions
<b>R1 - Serious Foul Play</b>		
R1-01	Tackle endangering an opponent e.g. over the ball tackle or tackle from behind not trying to play the ball	Mandatory 1 match plus 1 match
R1-02	Tackle endangering an opponent coming from distance; involving speed or brutality	Mandatory 1 match plus 2 matches
R1-03	Tackle inflicting injury on an opponent	Mandatory 1 match plus 4 matches
R1-04	Accidental elbow to the face in contest for the ball	Mandatory 1 match plus 2 matches
R1-05	Intentional elbow to the face in contest for the ball	Mandatory 1 match plus 4 matches
R1-06	Any other more serious offence	Mandatory 1 match plus Tribunal
<b>R2 - Violent Conduct</b>		
R2-01	Attempts to kick, strike or stomp	Mandatory 1 match plus 2 matches
R2-02	Pushes or throws to the ground or up against an object or fixture or rugby style tackle	Mandatory 1 match plus 2 matches
R2-03	Violent charge or body contact	Mandatory 1 match plus 2 matches
R2-04	Strikes with the ball or other object	Mandatory 1 match plus 3 matches
R2-05	Kicks, strikes, elbows, or stomps	Mandatory 1 match plus 4 matches
R2-06	Holds by the throat or genitals	Mandatory 1 match plus Tribunal
R2-07	Any other more serious offence	Mandatory 1 match plus Tribunal
R2-08	Inciting a brawl	Mandatory 1 match plus 5 matches
<b>R3 - Biting or spitting at someone</b>		
R3-01	Biting or spiting at or towards a Player, Club Official or spectator	Mandatory 1 match plus 4 matches
R3-02	Biting or spitting on an opponent or any other person	Mandatory 1 match plus 8 matches
<b>R4 - Denying goal scoring opportunity</b>		
R4-01	Denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball	Mandatory 1 match
<b>R5 - Denying goal scoring opportunity</b>		
R5-01	Denying 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	Mandatory 1 match
<b>R6 - Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures</b>		
R6-01	Not directed at a match official	Mandatory 1 match plus 1 match
R6-02	Making discriminatory, racist, religious, ethnic or sexist remark and/or gesture	Mandatory 1 match plus 4 matches plus Tribunal
R6-03	Threaten by word or action	Mandatory 1 match plus Tribunal
R6-04	Inciting a brawl	Mandatory 1 match plus 5 matches
<b>R7 - Receiving a second caution in the same match or receiving two Temporary Dismissals in the same match</b>		
R7-01	Second Yellow Card in a match or two Temporary Dismissals in a match	Mandatory 1 match
<b>TDS - Receiving two Temporary Dismissals in the same match</b>		
TDS-01	Second Temporary Dismissal in a match	Mandatory 1 match

**SCHEDULE 2 - FIXED PENALTIES FOR OFFENCES AGAINST MATCH OFFICIALS**

Offence Grading	Grading Guidelines Offences	Sanctions	
		Minimum	Maximum
<b>R2 – Violent Conduct</b>			
R2-09	Tripping a match official	12 months	Life
R2-10	Pushing a match official with an open hand, shoulder or hip	12 months	Life
R2-11	Striking a match official with the ball or other object	12 months	Life
R2-12	Punching, kicking, elbowing or headbutting a match official	24 months	Life
<b>R3 – Biting or spitting at someone</b>			
R3-03	Biting or spiting at a match official	12 months	Life
<b>R6 – Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures</b>			
R6-05	Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures against a match official	4 matches	6 months
R6-06	Use of Discriminatory, homophobic, racist, religious, ethnic or sexist language and or gestures against a match official	12 matches	24 months
R6-07	Unsporting Conduct towards a match official	4 matches	3 months
R6-08	Threatening or intimidating a match official by word or action	12 matches	Life

### SCHEDULE 3 - MISCONDUCT AND BRINGING THE GAME INTO DISREPUTE

1. Misconduct shall mean any act or omission by a Participant which constitutes:
  - a) a breach of the FIFA Statutes and Regulations;
  - b) a breach of the FFA Statutes, Regulations, By-Law, policy or code of conduct which may be in place from time to time, including to fulfil the Complaints Handling obligations laid out in the FFA Member Protection policy;
  - c) a breach of clause 4.1 of the Football Federation of Australia National Disciplinary Regulations;
  - d) a breach of a Capital Football By-Laws, Competition Regulations, Code of Conduct or other Policies
  - e) a breach of Capital Football Competition Regulations;
  - f) participating, assisting or arranging the participation or assistance of others in any match fixing, gambling or betting activities in relation to a Match;
  - g) in the opinion of Capital Football, conduct which is or may be prejudicial to the interests of the game of Football or Futsal in the Australian Capital Territory and surrounding region or to Capital Football or any of its sponsors;
  - h) in the opinion of Capital Football, conduct which is or may bring the game into disrepute
2. For the purposes of these Regulations a charge of “Bringing the Game into Disrepute” will be considered as a charge of “misconduct or of behaviour prejudicial to the interests of the game” when referring to disciplinary procedures, penalties and other disciplinary matters
3. In addition, failure to comply with any of the following specific directions will also be an offence and will be deemed as “Bringing the Game into Disrepute”;
  - a) **Conflicting Sponsorship**

No participating Club shall grant approval to any Player or Club Official of that Club for any individual sponsorship agreements with any company or products which conflict with the aims and objectives of Capital Football, FFA or its sponsors
  - b) **Detrimental Statements – Match Officials**

Players and Club Officials shall not make any detrimental statement to the public or the media in respect to the performance of any Match officials
  - c) **Detrimental Statements – Capital Football Policy**

Participants shall not make detrimental public statements in respect of any policy decisions of Capital Football
  - d) **Detrimental Statements – Sponsorship**

Participants shall not make any public statements detrimental to the image of the sponsors of Capital Football and its members
  - e) **Wearing of Detrimental Logos, etc**

Participants shall not wear any apparel bearing any insignia, logo, or sponsorship message, which knowingly may be detrimental to the image of Capital Football, the sponsors of Capital Football and its members
  - f) **Inciting of Violence**

Participants shall not do anything by act or omission, which in the normal course of events is likely to incite spectators to violence or other acts of disorder

**g) Disobey Reasonable Direction**

Participants shall accept and obey all reasonable directions from Match Officials, ground officials, Capital Football Staff and Board Members

**h) Comments on Committee Matters, etc**

Participants shall not make any statements to the media in respect to any matters set down for hearing at any Committee, and shall include appeals in respect to the decisions of these Committees

**i) Inducement to Act Contrary to the Rules**

Any Participant who induces any player or any official to act contrary to the provisions of the Competition Regulations or By-Laws, or Articles of Association of Capital Football and FFA shall be deemed to have brought the Game into disrepute