

MISCONDUCT REPORTING

Failure to submit misconduct reports:

**1st time - Fine equal to twice the
Game fee.**

**2nd time - Fine equal to three times
the Game fee.**

**3rd time - Fine of \$250 plus 30 days
suspension.**

MISCONDUCT REPORTING DECISIONS of the INTERNATIONAL BOARD.

The referee shall report to the appropriate authority misconduct or any misdemeanour on the part of spectators, officials, players, named substitutes or other persons which takes place either on the field of play or in its vicinity at any time prior to, during, or after the match in question so that appropriate action can be taken by the authority concerned.

MISCONDUCT REPORTING

What is required in a good report?

- 1. Who addressed to. Name of Association, League or Competition.**
- 2. The teams playing.**
- 3. The date and where played.**
- 4. Players or persons name, number and team associated with.**
- 5. The offence as described in the Laws of the Game, and the approximate time of the offence.**
- 6. A clear description of the incident.**

A good report should be readable and appear as a picture to the Discipline Committee.

FOULS and MISCONDUCT

A player shall be cautioned for any of the following:

- 1. Entering, re-entering or leaving the field of play after the game has commenced, and without having received a signal to do so from the referee.**
- 2. Persistently infringes the Laws of the Game.**
- 3. Shows by word or action, dissent from any decision of the referee.**
- 4. Is guilty of ungentlemanly conduct.**

FOULS and MISCONDUCT

A player shall be sent off the field of play for:

- 1. Violent Conduct (includes spitting)**
- 2. Serious Foul Play**
- 3. Foul or Abusive Language**
- 4. Persistent Misconduct after having received a Caution.**

GAMESMANSHIP

**BRINGS THE GAME INTO
DISREPUTE BY NOT
RESPECTING:**

- 1. *THE OPPONENTS.***
- 2. *THE REFEREES'
DECISIONS.***
- 3. *THE GAME ITSELF.***

TYPES OF GAMESMANSHIP

1. At a Free-kick:

- * Kicks the ball away**
- * Carries the ball away**
- * Stands close to the ball**
- * Encroaches from the defensive wall.**

2. Deliberately:

- * Impedes the goalkeeper**
- * Delays a restart**
- * Distracts opponent**
- * Distracts referee**
- * Fakes or exaggerates a foul**

GAMESMANSHIP

***REFEREES MUST LEARN
TO RECOGNIZE IT.***

***REFEREES MUST TAKE
PROMPT ACTION BY:***

- 1. A VERBAL WARNING***
- 2. AN OFFICIAL CAUTION***
- 3. A SEND OFF.***

Name four acts of Gamesmanship for which FIFA have said a caution must be given to the guilty player.

1

2

3

4

According to the Laws there are four reasons for issuing a caution to a player. Name them.

1.

2.

3.

4.

According to the Laws there are four reasons for which a player can be sent off the field of play. Name them.

1.

2.

3.

4.

MISCONDUCT REPORTING

By: Joe Agnew

According to Law V of the Laws of the Game and Universal Guide for Referees, all types of misconduct **must be reported**. The report must be made within the time stipulated in the competition rules. **Failure** to make a report within that time or **failure** to make a report will most likely result in **disciplinary action being taken against the referee**. Do not allow others to influence you into not making a report.

LAW V. Decisions of the International Board:

The referee shall report to the appropriate authority misconduct or any misdemeanour on the part of spectators, officials, players, named substitutes, or other persons which takes place either on the field of play or in its vicinity at any time prior to, during, or after the match in question so that appropriate action can be taken by the Authority concerned.

When preparing your report, make sure that you have listed all of the following information:

1. Destination of report = who addressed to, Association, League or Competition.
2. The names of the teams playing.
3. The date of the game and where played.
4. Players full name, number and team associated with. If not a player, as much information as possible.
5. The offence as described in The Laws of the Game, and the approximate time of the incident.
6. A clear description of what happened.

Make sure that your report is readable, clear and to the point. Confine your wording to the actual incident and do not include personal remarks or opinions. Remember, the Members of the Discipline Committee most likely did not see the incident, therefore, your report should appear as a picture to them.

Each incident requires a separate report. If two or more players are involved, a report is required for each one of the players. It is advisable for you to keep a copy of your report.

The referee is responsible for all reports, including those for offenses directed towards a linesman. The linesman should report directly to the referee. The referee must also report any misconduct by a linesman.

OFFENSES AGAINST GAME OFFICIALS

All cases of physical contact or attempted physical contact with game officials must be reported directly to the Soccer Association or other designated authority in whose jurisdiction the game was played. The team involved should also be informed that an assault or attempted assault is being reported.

Sample report

At the 30th minute of the second half I was informed by linesman, Mr. John Smith that he had been struck by player number 8 of the Rovers team, listed on the team sheet as John Doe. Based on this I dismissed John Doe from the field of play. Further details are contained in the linesman's report.

CAUTIONABLE OFFENSES

There are four (4) reasons for cautioning a player:

- (a) A player enters, re-enters or leaves the field of play after the game has commenced without first having received a signal from the referee;
- (b) Persistent infringement of the Laws of the Game;
- (c) Shows by word or action, dissent from any decision given by the referee;
- (d) Is guilty of ungentlemanly (unsporting) conduct.

SAMPLE CAUTION REPORTS

Offence: Enters, re-enters or leaves the field of play.

Incident: At the 29th minute of play in the first half #9 Jack Brown left the field of play for treatment of an injury. About 10 minutes later I observed him about to take a free-kick. At this time I informed him that he was being cautioned for re-entering the field without having first received a signal to do so.

Offence: Persistent infringement of the Laws of the Game.

Incident: At the 30th minute of the second half I had awarded a free-kick to the Rangers team. As the kick was about to be taken, #2 Fred King deliberately stood 1 pace in front of the ball, between the ball and the player who was about to take the kick. As I had spoken to King on two other occasions regarding his conduct, I cautioned him for persistently infringing the Laws of the Game.

Offence: Showing dissent from the Referee's decision.

Incident: After about 23 minutes of play in the first half I awarded a throw-in against the team of #7 Sam Smith, who, immediately called out in a loud voice "Rubbish referee, that wasn't out." For this I informed him that he was being caution for dissent.

Offence: Ungentlemanly conduct.

Incident: Play was proceeding down the right side of the field when at about the 15th minute of the second half #3 Jane Action deliberately pulled an opponents shirt causing the other player to lose possession of the ball. I stopped play and cautioned Action for ungentlemanly (unsporting) conduct, also informing her that any further misconduct could result in her being sent off.

SENDING OFF OFFENSES

According to the Law XII, there are four reasons for which a player may be sent off the field of play.

A player shall be sent off the field of play if in the opinion of the referee:

- (a) Is guilty of violent conduct;
- (b) Is guilty of serious foul play;
- (c) Uses foul or abusive language;
- (d) Persists in misconduct after received a caution.

SAMPLE DISMISSAL REPORTS

Offence: Violent conduct.

Incident: At a stoppage in play at the 37th minute of the first half I observed #5 Linda Fabre deliberately kick an opponent on the back of the leg, causing the other player to fall down. I immediately sent her from the field of play for violent conduct.

Offence: Serious Foul Play.

Incident: An attacking player was about to have a clear unimpeded shot at goal when #2 Jack Brownlee reached out and pulled him back by the shirt collar, preventing the goal scoring opportunity. This clearly constituted serious foul play, I therefore sent the offending player off the field of play. This occurred at the 22nd minute of the second half.

Offence: Foul or Abusive Language.

Incident: At the 34th minute of the first half I awarded a penalty-kick to the Blue Knights at this #6 Louie Caricci of the defending team called out loudly, "Referee, you are a stupid clown." At this I sent him off for the use of abusive language.

Offence: Persistent Misconduct after having Received a Caution.

Incident: During the first half I cautioned #7 Carlo Melsandra. However, at the 19th minute of the second half he grabbed an opposing player around the waist, pulling him to the ground. This being his second cautionable offence I sent him from the field of play. As he left the field he called me "A dumb son-of-a-bitch referee."

Note: The last sentence has no bearing on the reason for the sending off, it constitutes a further offence and is reported as such.

ATTENDING A HEARING

At sometime in your career it may be necessary for you to attend a discipline hearing. If so, it is recommended that you are there early, presentably dressed and accompanied by any witnesses that you feel will be of use to you.

Following the introductions it is usual for the report of the referee to be read out and entered into evidence. At this time it is normal for you to be asked if it is your report and if you would like to add to it. If your report is read out correctly, acknowledge it as your report. **You are advised not to attempt to change any of it.**

It is normal for the person charged to attempt to discredit your actions, do not be drawn into any argument. The members of the Committee holding the hearing will most likely ask some questions, the following is recommended:

Be fully conversant with Law IV, particularly sections (d) (e) and (h), base your answers on these sections, do not attempt to justify your actions. If necessary, quote the Laws. Remember, "to quote them, you must know them."