

Policy 1.0 - INTRODUCTION

The following are the Policies for discipline management under the jurisdiction of The Ontario Soccer Association (O.S.A.) and its affiliated organizations.

Because of the extensive number of Policies involved in discipline matters, a discipline case may be confusing for parties required to participate in the process. To assist accused persons, advisers, *game officials*, Clubs, and any other parties involved in a discipline case, the following Policies are designed to serve as a reference to such persons

The following Policies govern Discipline Panels at the O.S.A., District Association, League, and Club levels. . Jurisdiction for the handling of the different misconduct types is identified under [Policy 5.0](#)

For cases falling under the O.S.A. jurisdiction, the “Schedule of Fines, Fees, Bonds and Penalties” is outlined in O.S.A. Operational Procedures Section 9.0, [Procedure 15.0](#) Each District Association, League, and Club will establish its own schedule for those cases under its jurisdiction.

If any of the enclosed Policies are unclear, consult your District Association for clarification. The O.S.A. will provide interpretations only to District Associations, Senior Level 1 Leagues, Senior Level 2 Leagues, Senior Level 3 Leagues, Senior Level 4 Leagues, (if governed by OSA) Senior Level 5 Leagues, Youth Level 1 Leagues, Youth Level 2 Leagues, Youth Level 3 Leagues, Youth Level 4 Leagues, (if governed by OSA) Youth Level 5 Leagues and Associate Members. All other individuals and organizations must refer their questions to their respective District Association.

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Policy 2.0 - STANDARD TERMS USED IN DISCIPLINE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

2.1 Standard Terms

The standard terms used in the Discipline Policies are located in the Definitions in [Section 1.0, Policy 1.0](#).

Related Topics:

Policy 3.0 - WHO CAN BE DISCIPLINED?

3.1 Discipline action may only be taken against a registrant or registered organization of the O.S.A.

3.1.1 Notwithstanding **Policy 3.1** Any person acting as a Team Official, Administrator or Game Official shall be considered to be a registrant of the O.S.A. regardless of whether he/she has registered to do so.

Table 4: Registrants of the O.S.A.

<i>Individual/Organization</i>	<i>Type #</i>	<i>Registrant Type</i>
Individual Registrants	1.0	Player
	2.0	Team Official
	3.0	Administrator
	4.0	Game Official
Registered Organization	5.0	Club
	6.0	League
	7.0	District Association

3.2 Registrants or Registered Organizations who register with the O.S.A. cannot be retroactively charged with any policy or rule violation regarding any incident that occurred prior to the registration of such person or organization.

Related Topics:

Policy 4.0 - REPORTING MISCONDUCT

4.1 A registrant and/or registered organization is accused of an offence and is subject to discipline when:

- a) a game official reports an offence; or
- b) a registered individual or organization complains, or a complaint is received from a third party, in writing, to a Governing Organization that an offence has been committed which, after investigation, warrants further action by a Discipline Hearing Panel. Action shall only be taken if the complainant willingly agrees to be identified and agrees to act as a witness.

4.2 The Report

4.2.1 Misconduct must be reported, in writing, to the appropriate Governing Organization under whose jurisdiction the misconduct applies (as per **Policy 5.0**) 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.

4.2.2 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 game official (or other person in accordance with **Policy 4.1**) 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.

4.3 Statute of Limitations

4.3.1 The written report must be submitted to the appropriate *Governing Organization* within ninety (90) days of the occurrence of the alleged misconduct and the organization must commence action within thirty (30) days after receipt of the written report or the report will be declared null and void

4.3.2 Any reported misconduct that is made directly to the O.S.A. may be acted upon by the O.S.A. without consideration of the time-lines specified in **Policy 4.3.1**

4.4 Game Official Assault

4.4.1 In the case of a **Game Official Assault**, the game official shall complete a written report and submit it to the District Association in which he/she resides and to the O.S.A.

4.5 Misconduct by a Game Official

4.5.1 A complaint about a game official or alleged misconduct by a game official must be reported in writing to the appropriate District Association as specified in **Policy 5.1.2**

4.5.2 Notwithstanding **Policy 4.5.1** misconduct by a game official in a competition organized by the O.S.A. shall be handled by the O.S.A. Discipline Hearing Panel

4.5.3 If a person, registered as a game official, is accused of misconduct while acting as a registered player, team official or administrator, he/she shall be charged for misconduct in the capacity in which he/she was acting and shall not be charged as a game official. For misconduct at any other time, including as a spectator, the person shall be charged as a game official.

4.6 Misconduct at a Tournament

- 4.6.1 With the exception of reports pertaining to **game official assault**, a game 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.

Related Topics:

Policy 5.0 - JURISDICTION

5.1 Jurisdiction Levels

- 5.1.1 All misconduct types relating to registration of players, team officials & club administrators fall under the jurisdiction of District Associations.
- 5.1.2 All misconduct by a game official falls under the jurisdiction of the District Association in which the game official is registered .
- 5.1.3 Notwithstanding Policy 5.1.2, misconduct by a game official in a competition organized by The Ontario Soccer Association shall fall under the jurisdiction of the OSA.
- 5.1.4 All misconduct types relating to registration of game officials and administrators of
- O.S.A.
 - District Associations
 - Senior Level 1, 2, 3, 4 and (if governed by OSA) 5 Leagues
 - Youth Level 1, 2, 3, 4 and (if governed by OSA) 5 Leagues
- fall under the jurisdiction of the O.S.A.
- 5.1.5 Misconduct Types occurring in the same game shall be dealt with by one jurisdiction only. In a game involving several misconduct types by the same person or organization and where those misconduct types would normally fall under two or more jurisdictional levels, the case shall be handled by the higher level organization.
- 5.1.6 The jurisdictional levels to which discipline decisions may be appealed are identified in [Section 10.0 – Appeals](#), [Policy 3.0](#) , [Appendix 1](#)
- 5.1.7 Unless the Policy is identified as being applicable only to a specific jurisdiction, all the Policies and Procedures in this document are applicable to the O.S.A. and all organizations and individuals registered with the O.S.A..

5.2 Misconduct Directed towards a Game Official

- 5.2.1 In cases of **Game Official Assault** the O.S.A. 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 the O.S.A.'s Discipline Hearing Panel in the hearing of such cases.
- 5.2.2 For all other Misconduct Types directed at a game official the jurisdiction of discipline shall be:
- a) If the misconduct occurred during a game in a Senior Level 1, 2, 3, 4, or (if governed by the O.S.A.) 5 League, Youth Level 1, 2, 3, 4, or (if governed by the O.S.A.) 5 League, then the appropriate league shall have jurisdiction to handle any disciplinary action.
 - b) For all other Misconduct directed at the Game 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 Senior Level 5 (if governed by the District Association), 6 or 7 League or Youth Level 5 (if governed by the District Association), 6 or 7 League in which the offence occurred provided such delegation is stated in their published rules.

5.3 Delegation of Misconduct Jurisdiction

- 5.3.1 Where permitted, an 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 Governing Organization.
- 5.3.2 Where a Governing Organization delegates discipline jurisdiction to one of its member organizations, the authority to delegate must be stipulated in its "Published Rules".
- 5.3.3 District Associations may delegate certain game related misconduct types to:
- a) Senior Level 5 Leagues and Youth Level 5 Leagues (governed by District Association)
 - b) Senior Level 6 Leagues and Youth Level 6 Leagues
 - c) Clubs, Senior Club Leagues and Youth Level 7 Leagues
- 5.4 **Referral of Misconduct Cases**
- 5.4.1 An organization which has jurisdiction over a specific misconduct category may refer a misconduct incident to its Governing Organization. If the Governing Organization determines that the referral is valid, it shall handle the case. If the Governing Organization determines that the referral is not valid, the case shall be handled by the organization with jurisdiction for that misconduct type
- 5.4.2 Senior Level 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 Leagues (governed by O.S.A.) and Youth Level 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 Leagues (governed by O.S.A.) may refer game related misconduct types in Cup competition, Exhibition or Tournament games organized by that League to the O.S.A.:
- 5.4.3 Misconduct occurring outside the normal jurisdiction such as out of province games or tournaments shall be referred to the appropriate Governing Organization for action.
- 5.4.4 Anytime a governing organization refers a discipline case to another governing organization, that governing organization must report back the findings and decisions to the referring governing organization within 30 days.

Related Topics:

Policy 6.0 - RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 6.1 Players, team officials, administrators, game officials and spectators may only take part in, or attend, games on condition that they observe the "Published Rules" of the O.S.A..
- 6.2 Every club is responsible for the actions of its players, team officials, administrators and spectators.
- 6.3 Every club and league is required to take all precautions necessary to prevent its players, team officials, administrators and spectators from threatening or assaulting anyone present at games, and especially the game official(s). Clubs and leagues are expected to provide security for players and game officials.
- 6.4 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
- 6.4.1 In the event that the Game 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 game official shall be required to attend the hearing for the game official to identify the correct person if so required by the Discipline Hearing Panel.
- 6.5 Registered District Associations, Leagues and Clubs shall ensure that their disciplinary rules, regulations and policies are consistent with those published by the O.S.A..
- 6.6 Failure to observe time-lines defined in these Policies shall render any disciplinary action taken after the expiration of the time, null and void.
- 6.7 Accused parties have the right to appear at a Hearing at their own expense.
- 6.8 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
- The name and address of the organization to which the Appeal must be sent.
 - The amount of the appeal fee
 - The criteria for the grounds for appeal
 - Which organizations must receive a copy of the appeal
 - 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"
- 6.9 Except for discipline decisions rendered under the **D.B.R. System**, any party directly affected by a decision has the right to appeal that decision, in accordance with **Policy 6.8** above. The discipline decision shall remain in effect pending the result of the appeal.
- 6.10 A player is entitled to know for which offence she/he has been dismissed from a game. Each Governing Organization shall develop a procedure whereby a person may find out why she/he has been dismissed. This procedure must allow time for the report to be accepted by the Governing Organization and time for the accused to request a hearing via the normal procedures.
- 6.11 Any party directly affected by a decision shall have the right to request and receive a copy of the "Findings". However, the Minutes of a Discipline Hearing Panel shall not be given to any party except to the Governing Organization, upon such request.

Policy 7.0 - DISCIPLINE BY REVIEW (D.B.R.) SYSTEM

- 7.1 An organization may discipline by the **D.B.R. System** only for those misconduct types defined in Policy 9.1
- 7.2 **Discipline Review Meeting**
- 7.2.1 For Discipline Hearings being convened by a District Association or any competitive classification league (per League Policy 7.5), the Discipline Hearing Chair will hold current Discipline Certification Level 1 prior to the hearing being convened.
- 7.2.2 The organization's *Discipline Review Panel* shall meet not less than once a month, in accordance with a published schedule, to review all misconduct reports received since its last Discipline Review meeting.
- 7.2.3 The *Discipline Review Panel* shall:
- read the misconduct report in order to verify that the correct charges have been identified;
 - Make a decision on the charge(s)
 - Render the mandatory penalty in accordance with **Policy 9.0** .
- 7.2.4 The *Discipline Review Panel* may:
- postpone a decision to a subsequent Discipline Hearing Meeting if it determines that further clarification and/or reports are required, or
 - schedule a Discipline Hearing if it considers that additional charges should be laid against any registrant or registered organization. The new charges must be dealt with by the appropriate organization at a new Hearing under **Policy 8.0** .
- 7.3 **Notification of Penalty**
- 7.3.1 Decisions shall be forwarded, in writing, by mail, fax, e-mail, or designated website, to all affected parties within four (4) *days* .
- 7.3.2 The decision shall indicate the:
- Exact offence(s) of which the accused has been found guilty; and
 - Starting date and the expiry date of the suspension or the specific games from which the accused has been suspended.
- 7.4 **Appeal of a Decision under the D.B.R. System**
- 7.4.1 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 D.B.R. System may not be appealed.
- 7.5 **Request For A Hearing**
- 7.5.1 Except in cases of O.S.A. Misconduct Type 1.3, 1.5 and 1.6, an individual who is subject to the **D.B.R. System** shall have the right to request to be disciplined by the **D.B.H. System**
- 7.5.2 The accused shall submit a written request to the organization having jurisdiction to hear the case, within three days of receiving the dismissal. This request must arrive before the date of the next scheduled Discipline Review meeting, as published, in accordance with **Policy 7.2.2**
- 7.5.3 The written request shall be in the form of a "Request For A Hearing" together with the appropriate "Request For Hearing

Fee”

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

7.5.5 The “Request For Hearing Fee” shall be Paid prior to the start of the hearing and this fee is non-refundable.

Related Topics:

Policy 8.0 - DISCIPLINE BY HEARING (D.B.H.) SYSTEM

8.1 Notification of Hearing

- 8.1.1 For organizations without regularly scheduled hearings, all those required to attend a hearing shall be given fifteen days notice. Such notice shall also be forwarded to the club when the offence involves a registered player, team official or club administrator . This notice must state the exact nature of the charges, together with the misconduct type and reference number, as outlined in Policy 9.0, together with the "Rights of the Accused" to request a postponement, to bring an adviser, observers and/or witnesses. The Notice of Hearing will also include a copy of each 'Report of Misconduct' received by the Governing Organization in relation to the Discipline Charge being brought against the accused.
- 8.1.2 For all organizations that have published the dates on which they hold regularly scheduled hearings, those required to attend a hearing shall attend in accordance with the organization's published schedule. Regarding the nature of the charges, in a case being heard at a regularly scheduled hearing, it shall be the responsibility of the Governing Organization to make the copy of the Report(s) of Misconduct available to the accused party at least 30 minutes prior to commencing the hearing. The accused persons rights to request a postponement, to bring an adviser, observers and/or witnesses must be published with the schedule of hearings.
- 8.1.3 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 have all relevant parties sign a waiver or will adjourn the case to a subsequent date.
- 8.1.4 The Discipline Hearing Panel shall not override any legitimate objections based on the Discipline Policies contained in these "Published Rules"

8.2 Request for Postponement

- 8.2.1 Any party required to attend a hearing may request one (1) postponement of a hearing. The party must submit a written request which must be received by the Governing Organization no later than four days prior to the date of that hearing, stating the reason for requesting the postponement. All such requests must be accompanied by the correct fee in the form of a recorded payment. Should the request be denied, the fee shall be refunded. The Governing Organization shall have full discretion to refund the "Request For Postponement Fee" if sufficient reason warrants such action.
- 8.2.2 Any game official required to attend does not have to pay the "Request For Postponement Fee" unless he/she is the accused.
- 8.2.3 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 in accordance with **Policy 8.2.1** . Such "Requests for Postponement" shall be granted, but the accused shall remain suspended from all soccer related activity until his/ her case is dealt with by the Discipline Hearing Panel.

8.3 Request for Hearing

- 8.3.1 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.

8.3.2 When a hearing is postponed in accordance with **Policy 8.2.3**, the accused shall request a hearing after the disposition of the criminal charge(s) but will not be required to pay the normal "Request For Hearing Fee". The outcome of a criminal case will not influence charges laid under "Published Rules". Any suspension period shall include the period during which the accused was suspended prior to the hearing.

8.4 **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 the O.S.A. 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.

8.5 **Attendance at Discipline Hearing**

8.5.1 The accused individual or 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.

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

8.5.3 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.

8.5.4 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 and attends a hearing.

8.5.5 In all cases of alleged **Game Official Assault**, the following must attend the hearing:

- a) the accused; (notwithstanding 8.5.1, the accused must attend in person)
- b) the person(s) submitting the report(s);
- c) the club representative.

8.5.6 If any of the above parties fail to attend:

- a) Failure by any person or organization to attend a Discipline Hearing after having been given notice to do so in accordance with **Policy 8.1** may result in disciplinary action being taken.
- b) 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 he/she requests, in writing, another hearing and appears at that subsequent hearing; and he/ she shall be fined in accordance with the "Published Rules" of the organization hearing the case.
- c) An organization failing to attend a Discipline Hearing, when required to do so, shall be fined in accordance with the "Published Rules" of the organization hearing the case.

8.5.7 **Failure of an accused, without due cause, to participate in, or remain at, a discipline hearing when required to attend.**

- a) An accused person who refused to participate in a Discipline Hearing, or who walked out of the hearing, thus preventing the Discipline Hearing Panel from rendering a decision on the case, shall be suspended from all soccer related activities until such time that he/she requests, in writing, another hearing and appears at that subsequent hearing.
- b) Notwithstanding **Policy 8.4.7 a)**, if the Discipline Hearing Panel determines that it has obtained sufficient evidence, prior to the walkout, to render a decision in the normal manner, it shall render its decision.

8.5.8 The *Discipline Hearing Panel* must request that the author of the misconduct report attend the Discipline Hearing where the accused has been charged with a misconduct type that may result in a penalty of one year or greater.

8.5.9 The game official must attend a Discipline Hearing if required by the Discipline Hearing Panel. Any reasonable expenses incurred by the game official shall be reimbursed by the Governing Organization handling the case.

8.6 **Advisers, Club Representative, Witnesses and Observers**

8.6.1 **Advisers**

8.6.1.1 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 game official(s) and may question a witness for clarification purposes only.

8.6.1.2 The Chair of the *Discipline Hearing Panel* shall notify any advisers that the hearing will be conducted strictly in accordance with O.S.A. "Published Rules".

8.6.1.3 An adviser may not be granted an adjournment of the hearing on the grounds that he/she is not familiar with O.S.A. "Published Rules".

8.6.2 **Observers**

8.6.2.1 Each party required to attend a Discipline Hearing is entitled to have a maximum of two observers in attendance at the Discipline Hearing in order to ensure that a specific party receives a fair hearing. They may not act as a witness nor provide any testimony but may speak at the discretion of the Discipline Hearing Panel.

8.6.2.2 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.

8.6.3 **Club, O.S.R.A., Local Referee Association or League Representative**

8.6.3.1 Each Club / O.S.R.A. / Local Referee Association or League is entitled to send a representative to a Discipline Hearing at which one of its player(s), team official(s) or administrators or game official(s) has been charged with a Misconduct Type and may serve as an adviser.

8.6.3.2 At a Discipline Hearing for a **Game Official Assault** case, the Club shall send a representative to the hearing.

8.6.3.3 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 **Policy 8.5.1**.

8.6.3.4 At a Discipline Hearing for a **Game Official Assault** case, the O.S.R.A. or the Local Referee Association of the assaulted game official shall be requested to send a representative to the hearing.

8.6.5 **Witnesses**

8.6.5.1 Each party required to attend a Discipline Hearing is entitled to bring witnesses. Witnesses must appear in person. Written reports by witnesses are not acceptable.

8.6.5.2 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.

8.7 **Composition of Discipline Hearing Panel**

8.7.1 A Discipline Hearing Panel shall consist of at least three members: The Chair ; The Recording Secretary and a third member. Personnel shall be carefully selected for the Discipline Hearing Panel to ensure the panel will have no significant relationship with the affected parties, will have no involvement with the misconduct being considered and will be free from any other actual or perceived bias or conflict

The Discipline Hearing Panel shall hear all charges at a properly convened Discipline Hearing. The accused may waive this requirement for three members by signing the appropriate waiver form.

8.7.2 For Discipline Hearings being convened by a District Association or any competitive classification league (per League Policy 7.5), the Discipline Hearing Chair will hold current Discipline Certification Level 1 prior to the

hearing being convened.

8.8 Discipline Hearing Procedures

- 8.8.1 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. The Chair shall explain to all parties present, the Discipline process and the rights and limitations of all parties to the Hearing, as described in **Policies 8.4 and 8.5** above.
- 8.8.2 With all parties present, the charges against the accused shall be read from the "Discipline Hearing Notice", together with any other reports on which the charges have been based. After this time, all witnesses must be asked to leave the room.
- 8.8.3 The person(s) submitting the report(s), if present, shall be allowed to amplify or qualify the report(s) and the accused (or adviser) shall be allowed to question the person(s) submitting the report(s) or, in the absence of that person(s), the report itself.
- 8.8.4 Witnesses shall be brought back in, one at a time, at the request of either party or the Hearing Panel. Questions to a witness from any party shall be directed through the Chair. After giving testimony the witnesses shall be asked to remain in the room. If they request to leave, the Panel must ensure that they leave the building and not speak to any other witnesses that have still to be heard.
- 8.8.5 The Chair shall allow the accused and witnesses to testify, provided the testimony is relevant, and the Hearing Panel may question the accused or any witness giving evidence.
- 8.8.6 If, during the hearing, it is determined that evidence from a witness who could not attend may be crucial to the decision, the Chair shall adjourn the hearing and reschedule it to a later date. All those who are required to attend the rescheduled hearing shall be given notice in writing in accordance with the time frames in **Policy 8.1.1 or 8.1.2** as appropriate, or by mutual consent at an earlier date.
- 8.8.7 The accused and the person(s) submitting the report(s) shall be given the opportunity to present final comments, after which the Chair shall declare the hearing recessed and notify all parties of their "Rights of Appeal". At this time, all those other than the panel members shall leave.
- 8.8.8 The panel shall consider the evidence and shall, wherever possible, arrive at a decision prior to adjourning. In the event that the panel decides that further investigation is required, it will act accordingly, and will notify all involved parties to that effect within fifteen days. If a further hearing is considered to be necessary, the panel shall, unless all parties agree to sign waivers, give fifteen days notice to all involved parties. Those parties required to attend the original hearing shall be required to be present at the subsequent hearing.
- 8.8.9 In the event that a Discipline Hearing Panel considers that (additional) charges should be laid against any registrant or registered organization as a result of new evidence being discovered at the hearing, the (new) charges must be dealt with by the appropriate organization at a new hearing held on a subsequent date.
- 8.8.10 In a situation where there are multiple discipline cases involving two or more individuals/organizations and relating to the same incident, the Discipline Hearing Panel may hear the cases concurrently at the same hearing. In such situations, all of the accused parties shall individually be given the same rights and responsibilities as a single accused individual/organization.

8.9 Audio Visual Technology

- 8.9.1 A tape recorder may be used by any party to record the testimony at a Discipline Hearing. All persons participating in the hearing shall be advised that the hearing is being taped.
- 8.9.2 Videotape evidence is acceptable provided it substantiates verbal evidence given by any party. Videotape evidence that simply seeks to show errors made by a game official shall be ruled out of order and not considered. Videotape evidence that shows possible errors in identification by the game official shall be allowed.

8.10 Notification of Penalty

- 8.10.1 In all cases, decisions shall be forwarded, in writing, by mail, fax, e-mail, or designated website, to the parties

involved within fifteen 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.
- b) The exact terms of the discipline imposed, including any suspension(s), fee(s), fine(s), or bond(s).

8.10.2 Failure of a Governing Organization to render a written decision within the specified time frames.

- 8.10.2. a) An accused person may complain to the next higher Governing Organization if a written decision is not received within the time frames specified in the "Published Rules. All complaints must be lodged by written request within thirty days of the hearing date. A copy of the complaint must be sent to the organization under whose jurisdiction the Discipline Hearing/Review was held
- 1
- b) If the written decision is not received by the accused within the time frames specified in these "Published Rules", the accused person's or organization's rights of appeal begin on the date of the receipt of the written decision.
 - c) The delinquent organization will be charged with acting in contravention of a "Published Rule" (ie., Misconduct Type 5.66, 6.66 or 7.66)

8.10.3 Failure of a Governing Organization to provide the "Rights of Appeal Information" to a party directly affected by the decision.

- 8.10.3. If the "Rights of Appeal Information" is not given to an party directly affected by the decision, then that party's rights of appeal in accordance with Policy 6.8, begin on the date of the receipt of the "Rights of Appeal Information".
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[Related Topics:](#)

Policy 9.0 - STANDARD PENALTIES FOR MISCONDUCT

9.1 Misconduct types for which discipline may be rendered by the D.B.R. System or the D.B.H. System

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, \$200.00 must be dealt with by DBH.

9.2 Probationary, suspended 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 "Published Rules". and provided such penalties are not in conflict with any OSA Misconduct Type. With regard to players, a fee, fine, bond and/or penalty may be 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 or attempted physical assault of a mini or youth registered player by a Team Official or Administrator
- iii) Game Official Assault by a player, team official, administrator or another game official

9.4.1 In cases where a person has been charged in criminal court with offences of moral turpitude, the accused shall be suspended from all soccer related activity until the case(s) has been concluded in criminal court. The O.S.A. may decide if further proceedings are warranted pursuant to the "Published Rules" of the O.S.A. and/or the C.S.A..

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

9.4.3 All other policies pertaining to the administration and handling of the Discipline Hearing(s) for these OSA Misconduct Types will be in accordance with Discipline **Policy 10.0** - Game 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 in this policy for the specific registrant type.

9.5.1 Notwithstanding Discipline Policy 9.5 above, a Discipline Hearing Panel may only suspend the accused from 'all soccer related activity' when a finding of guilty is rendered for one of the following OSA Misconduct

Types.

1.22	2.51	3.51	4.51
1.51	2.52	3.52	4.52
1.52	2.53	3.63	4.53
1.64	2.54	3.64	4.54
1.65	2.63	3.65	4.64
1.67	2.64	3.67	4.67
1.68	2.65	3.68	4.68
1.69	2.67	3.71	4.71
1.71	2.68	3.72	4.73
1.73	2.71	3.73	4.74
1.74	2.72	3.74	
	2.73		
	2.74		

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 only within the jurisdiction hearing the case.

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 his/her own Club, or
- ii) with a Temporary Registration Permit (TRP) for a higher level club team of a club other than one with which he/she is registered.

in a league game for any other team until after the scheduled date of the final game covered by his/her 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 up for a higher level club team within his/her own Club, or
- ii) having played up with a Temporary Registration Permit (TRP) for a higher level club team of a club other than one with which he/she is 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.

9.5.2 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 be disciplined for the accumulation of cautions within the same competition/league.

9.6.1 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.

9.7 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.

9.7.1 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:

1.16A to 1.16	2.16A to 2.16 or	3.16A to 3.16 or	4.51 to 4.16	5.51 to 5.53
1.19A to 1.19	2.14	3.14	4.51 to 4.15	5.52 to 5.51 or 5.53
1.21A to 1.21	2.51 to 2.16A or	3.51 to 3.16A or	4.52 to 4.51 or	
1.51 to 1.16A or	2.16 or 2.14	3.16 or 3.14	4.15	
1.16	2.52 to 2.51 or	3.52 to 3.51 or	4.54 to 4.53 or	

1.52 to 1.51 or 1.16A or 1.16	2.16A or 2.16 or 2.14	3.16A or 3.16 3.54 to 3.53	4.41 4.73 to 4.16 or
1.73 to 1.16 or 1.15	2.54 to 2.53 2.73 to 2.16 or 2.15	3.73 to 3.16 or 3.15	4.15

- 9.8 A youth aged game 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 game official.
- 9.8.1 If the same youth aged game official, officiating in a youth or mini competition when the misconduct occurred, is found guilty of the same Misconduct Type a second time in the same playing season, the Discipline Hearing Panel may then suspend the offending game official from refereeing for a period of 7 to 14 days.
- 9.9 In the matter of Game 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.
- 9.10 The authority for dealing with any registration misconduct outlined in **Policy 5.1.1**, 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 policy or a District's published schedule of Fines, Fee, Bonds or Penalties.
- 9.10.1 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 policies. 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
- 9.10.2 Ineligible player is defined as follows:
- a) Playing while under suspension,
 - b) Playing without an international transfer,
 - c) Playing without having been re-instated from Professional to amateur,
 - d) Playing while not being properly registered,
 - e) Playing while not being registered to that team unless on a valid trial permit,
 - f) Playing in an age specific competition without the eligible age classification,
 - g) Playing up or playing as a guest player when ineligible to do so,
 - h) Playing after failing to produce the OSA Registrant Book or OSA approved Identification Card when requested to do so.
- 9.11 All Governing Organizations shall impose fines, fees, bonds or penalties for violations based on the OSA Misconduct Types in **Policy 9.0**.
- 9.12 The use of any misconduct types (Acted in contravention of, or failed to act in accordance with a "Published Rule" 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 OSA misconduct within **Policy 9.0**.
- 9.13 If a Registrant fails to attend a discipline hearing for Game Official Assault, the Discipline Hearing Panel may fine the Registrant in accordance with the fines indicated in the tables in **Policy 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 O.S.A. 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.

Table 5: Standard Penalties for Misconduct by a Player

Type #	Description of Misconduct	First playing seasonal Offence	Second playing seasonal Offence	Third or More playing seasonal 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		
1.13	Dismissed for "Receiving a second caution in the same game" for which neither of the cautions was directed at the game 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 game official(s).	2 game suspension	4 game suspension	See misconduct 1.22
1.15	Dismissed or reported by game official for "Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures" directed at anyone other than the game 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 game official for "Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures" directed at the game official(s). If racist or sexual comments - please see 1.73	3 game suspension	8 game suspension	See misconduct 1.22
1.16 A	Dismissed or reported for "using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures" directed at a game official(s) after having been previously dismissed or reported	6 to 8 games suspension	8-12 games suspension	See misconduct 1.22
1.17	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
1.18	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 penalty kick".	2 game suspension	4 game suspension	See misconduct 1.22
1.19	Dismissed for "Serious Foul Play". (Must occur on the field of play, against an opponent when challenging for the ball, while the ball is in play). Otherwise 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" (Must occur on the field of play, against an opponent while the ball is in play) otherwise see 1.21A	4-8 game suspension	8-12 game suspension	See misconduct 1.22
1.20	Dismissed or reported for "Spitting at an opponent or any other person", other than a game official. NOTE: Spitting at a game official is Misconduct Type 1.52.	4 game suspension	8 game suspension	See misconduct 1.22
1.21	Dismissed or reported for "Violent Conduct".	3 game suspension	6 game suspension	See misconduct 1.22
1.21 A	Dismissed or reported for "Violent Conduct" 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.	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 game official	2 game suspension	5 game suspension	See misconduct 1.22

Table 6: Standard Penalties for Misconduct by a Player

Type #	Description of Misconduct	First Lifetime Offence	Second Lifetime Offence	Third or More Lifetime Offence
1.51	Game Official Assault for "deliberate physical contact (ie., pushing,	6-12 month suspension +	1-3 year suspension +	Minimum 5 year

	pulling, charging, etc.) or attempted physical contact or threatening".	\$200.00 fine	\$200.00 fine	suspension
1.52	Game Official Assault for "striking , spitting, kicking, or any form of violent conduct, or attempted violent conduct".	2-5 year suspension + \$400.00 fine	5-10 year suspension + \$400.00 fine	Minimum 10 year suspension
1.61	Failed to attend a discipline hearing at which he/she was accused of game official assault .	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 either 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 policy 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 policy 9.12)	3-12 month suspension	1-3 year suspension	2-5 year suspension
1.68	a) Changed any information on a registration form without the consent of the person being registered on such form. b) Provided false or inaccurate information on a registration form. c) Provided an invalid photograph for registration purposes.	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 game official or other registrant for racist or sexist comments made during the game or in the vicinity of the playing field either 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 a discipline or appeal hearing panel member(s)	3-12 month suspension	1-3 year suspension	2-5 year suspension
1.75	directly or indirectly encouraged or assisted in the establishment or operation of a soccer organization or competition unless that soccer organization is an affiliated governing organization of The OSA or the Player is only acting as a player or team official	6-12 month suspension	18-24 month suspension	3-5 year suspension

Table 7: Standard Penalties for Misconduct by Team Officials

Type # Team Official	Description of Misconduct	First playing seasonal Offence	Second playing seasonal Offence	Third or More playing seasonal Offence
2.13	Dismissed or reported for persisting in misconduct "after receiving a warning 'for misconduct' from the game official" for which neither of the offences was directed at the game official(s)..	1 game suspension	3 game suspension	See misconduct 2.22
2.14	Dismissed or reported for persistent misconduct "after receiving a warning 'for misconduct' from the game official" for which at least one of the offences was directed at the game official(s)..	2 game suspension	5 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 game 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 game 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 game official(s) after having been previously dismissed or reported	7 to 9 game suspension	3 to 6 months 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 game official	3 game suspension	6 game suspension	See misconduct 2.22
		First Lifetime Offence	Second Lifetime Offence	Third Lifetime Offence
2.41	Physical Assault or Attempted Physical Assault of a mini-soccer registered player or youth registered player.	3-12 month suspension +\$300.00 fine	1-3 year suspension +\$400.00 fine	Minimum 5 year suspension + \$500.00 fine

2.51	Game Official Assault for "deliberate physical contact (ie., pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempted physical contact or threatening".	6-12 month suspension + \$300.00 fine	1-3 year suspension + \$400.00 fine	Minimum 5 year suspension + \$500.00 fine
2.52	Game Official Assault for "striking, spitting, kicking, or any form of violent conduct, or attempted violent conduct".	2-5 year suspension + \$300.00 fine	5-10 year suspension + \$400.00 fine	Minimum 10 year suspension \$500.00 fine
2.53	Made deliberate physical contact (ie., pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempts physical contact with, or threatens, a registrant or non-registrant of the O.S.A. (excluding a Game Official, or a mini/youth registered player).	6-12 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 the O.S.A. (excluding a Game Official, or a mini/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 his/her registration book within 5 days	\$100.00 fine	\$200.00 fine	\$400.00 fine
2.61	Failed to attend a discipline hearing at which he/she was accused of game official assault .	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 either 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 Policy 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 Policy 9.12)	3-12 month suspension	1-3 year suspension	2-5 year suspension
2.68	a) Changed any information on a registration form without the consent of the person being registered on such form. b) Provided false or inaccurate information on a registration form. c) Falsified a signature on a registration form. 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
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 his/her team 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 game official or other registrant for racist or sexist comments made during a game or in the vicinity of the playing field either 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 at a discipline or appeal hearing panel member(s)	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 a soccer organization or competition unless that soccer organization is an affiliated governing organization of The OSA or the Team Official is only acting as a player or team official	6-12 month suspension	18-24 month suspension	3-5 year suspension

Table 8: 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 game official" for which neither of the offences was directed at the game 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 game official" for which at least one of the offences was directed at the game official(s)..	2 week suspension	5 week suspension	See misconduct 3.22
3.15	Dismissed or reported for using "Offensive, insulting or abusive language	2 week	5 week	See

	and/or gestures" directed at anyone other than the game official(s).	suspension	suspension	misconduct 3.22
3.16	Dismissed or reported for using "Offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures" directed at the game official(s).	4 week suspension	9 week suspension	See misconduct 3.22
3.16A	Reported for persisting in "using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures" directed at a game official(s) after having been previously reported or dismissed	7 to 9 week suspension	3 to 6 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		
		First Lifetime Offence	Second Lifetime Offence	Third Lifetime Offence
3.41	Physical Assault or Attempted Physical Assault of a mini-soccer registered player or youth registered player.	3-12 month suspension +\$300.00 fine	1-3 year suspension +\$400.00 fine	Minimum 5 year suspension + \$500.00 fine
3.51	Game Official Assault for "deliberate physical contact (ie., pushing, pulling, charging, etc .) or attempted physical contact or threatening".	6-12 month suspension + \$300.00 fine	1-3 year suspension + \$400.00 fine	Minimum 5 year suspension + \$500.00 fine
3.52	Game Official Assault for "striking, spitting, kicking, or any form of violent conduct, or attempted violent conduct".	2-5 year suspension + \$300.00 fine	5-10 year suspension + 400.00 fine	Minimum 10 year suspension \$500.00 fine
3.53	Made deliberate physical contact (ie., pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempts physical contact with, or threatens, a registrant or non-registrant of the O.S.A. (excluding a Game 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 the O.S.A. (excluding a Game Official, or a mini/youth registered player).	2-5 year suspension	5-10 year suspension	10 year suspension
3.58	When request by a player, refused to give the player his/her registration book within 5 days	\$100.00 fine	\$200.00 fine	\$400.00 fine
3.61	Failed to attend a discipline hearing at which he/she was accused of game official assault .	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 either 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 Policy 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 Policy 9.12)	3-12 month suspension	1-3 year suspension	2-5 year suspension
3.68	a) Changed any information on a registration form without the consent of the person being registered on such form. b) Provided false or inaccurate information on a registration form. c) Falsified a signature on a registration form. 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 a false address 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 his/her team 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 game official or other registrant for racist or sexist comments made during a game or in the vicinity of the playing field either 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 a panel member(s)	3-12 month suspension	1-3 year suspension	2-5 year suspension
3.75	directly or indirectly encouraged or assisted in the establishment or	6-12 month	18-24 month	3-5 year

	operation of a soccer organization or competition unless that soccer organization is an affiliated governing organization of The OSA	suspension	suspension	suspension
3.76	participated in an organization's decision not to register some, or all of its players and teams with The OSA. <i>(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.)</i>	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 The OSA. <i>(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.)</i>	12 month suspension	24 month suspension	3-5 year suspension

Table 9: Standard Penalties for Misconduct by a Game 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 game 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 his/her inability to officiate such game.	\$100.00 - \$200.00 fine	\$250.00 - \$500.00 fine	\$500.00 - \$750.00 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.	\$100 fine	\$250 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 Game Official Assault Report Form for a Game Official Assault	\$200.00 fine	\$500.00 fine	\$1000.00 fine
		First Lifetime Offence	Second Lifetime Offence	Third Lifetime Offence
4.51	Game Official Assault for "deliberate physical contact (ie., pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempted physical contact or threatening".	6-12 month suspension + \$300.00 fine	1-3 year suspension + \$400.00 fine	Minimum 5 year suspension + \$500.00 fine
4.52	Game Official Assault for "striking, spitting, kicking, or any form of violent conduct, or attempted violent conduct".	2-5 year suspension + \$500.00 fine	5-10 year suspension + \$500.00 fine	Minimum 10 year suspension
4.53	Made deliberate physical contact (ie., pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempts physical contact with, or threatens, a registrant of the O.S.A. or a spectator.	6-12 month suspension	1-3 year suspension	Minimum 5 year suspension
4.54	Struck, spat on, kicked, or committed any form of violent conduct, or attempted violent conduct, against a registrant of the O.S.A. or a spectator.	2-5 year suspension	5-10 year suspension	Minimum 10 year suspension
4.55	Publicly criticized any other game official or Soccer Organization; made derogatory statements to the media relating to any game in which he/she was involved concerning the performance of the players or other game officials.	1-3 month suspension	3-12 month suspension	2-5 year suspension
4.57	Failed to report a serious game-related offence to his/her District Association.	subject to disciplinary action		
4.58	Officiated an unsanctioned or unaffiliated soccer game.	30-day suspension	3-6 month suspension	1-2 year suspension
4.60	Failed to attend without a valid reason, a discipline hearing for a person whom the referee had reported for game official assault or when the penalty is greater than 12 months.	\$100.00 fine	\$200.00 fine	\$300.00 fine
4.61	Failed to attend a discipline hearing at which he/she was accused of Game Official Assault.	Game 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, O.S.A. or FIFA "Published Rule". (see restrictions in Policy	1-6 month suspension	6-12 month suspension	1-3 year suspension

	9.12)			
4.67	Acted in a manner deemed to be detrimental to "the game". (see restrictions in Policy 9.12)	3-12 month suspension	1-3 year suspension	2-5 year suspension
4.68	a) Provided false or inaccurate information on a registration form. b) Falsified a signature on a registration form. 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 referee 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	Any game official dismissed or reported by a game official or other registrant for racist or sexist comments made during a game or in the vicinity of the playing field either 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
4.73	Reported for "using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures" directed at a panel member(s)	3-12 month suspension	1-3 year suspension	2-5 year suspension
4.74	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 referee activities	\$500.00 fine + 4 week suspension from all referee activities	\$1000.00 fine + 1 year suspension from all referee activities
4.75	directly or indirectly encouraged or assisted in the establishment or operation of a soccer organization or competition unless that soccer organization is an affiliated governing organization of The OSA	6-12 month suspension	18-24 month suspension	3-5 year suspension

Table 10 : 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	Game Official Assault for "deliberate physical contact (ie. pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempted physical contact or threatening" by a Club's spectators or by unidentified players, Team Officials, Administrators of one of the Club's teams.	\$500.00 fine	\$1000.00 fine	\$2000.00 fine
5.52	Game 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	\$1000.00 fine	\$2000.00 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 game official(s) or any other person after the game official issued a warning to the team and/or club officials.	\$300.00 fine	\$500.00 fine	\$1000.00 fine
5.59	Permitted unregistered teams and/or unregistered players to participate in their sanctioned club competitions.	\$1000.00 fine	\$1000.00 fine	\$1000.00 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 game official assault for the actions of its spectators and/or unidentified players, Team Official, Administrators on one of the Club's teams.	\$200.00 fine	\$300.00 fine	\$500.00 fine
5.62	Club failed to pay the O.S.A. 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 game official assault .	a) b)	\$100.00 penalty assessed to Club; if \$200.00 admin fee + \$100.00 penalty is not paid by Club within 60 days after hearing, the Club will assessed 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	\$1000.00 fine
5.65	(One of its teams) participated in an unsanctioned competition.	\$500.00 fine	\$750.00 fine	\$1000.00 fine

5.66	Acted in contravention of, or failed to act in accordance with, a "Published Rule". (see restrictions in Policy 9.12)	\$200.00 fine	\$400.00 fine	\$600.00 fine
5.67	Acted in a manner deemed to be detrimental to the game. (see restrictions in Policy 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	a) Changed any information on a registration form without the consent of the person being registered on such form. b) Provided false or inaccurate information on a registration form. c) Falsified a signature on a registration form. d) Provided an invalid photograph of a person for the purpose of registering that person.	\$500.00 fine	\$1,000.00 fine	\$2,000.00 fine
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	\$1000.00 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	\$1000.00
		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. 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.		
5.72	One of its Team Officials or Administrators was found guilty of inducing or attempting to induce a registered player to leave his/her team 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 or administrator found guilty of racist or sexist comments made during a game or in the vicinity of the playing field either during or after the game	\$500.00 fine	\$1000.00 fine	\$2000.00 fine
5.75	directly or indirectly encouraged or assisted in the establishment or operation of a soccer organization or competition unless that soccer organization is an affiliated governing organization of The OSA	\$1000.00 fine	\$3000.00 fine	\$5000.00 fine
5.77	did not register all of its Teams and players with The OSA	\$500.00 fine for each team not registered or \$500.00 fine for each 14 players not registered, whichever is less	\$1000.00 fine for each team not registered or \$1000.00 fine for each 14 players not registered, whichever is less	\$2000.00 fine for each team not registered or \$2000.00 fine for each 14 players not registered, whichever is less
5.78	did not register all of its Leagues, Divisions, coaches and administrators with The OSA	\$200.00 fine for each League, Division, coach and administrator not registered with OSA	\$350.00 fine for each League, Division, coach and administrator not registered with OSA	\$500.00 fine for each League, Division, coach and administrator not registered with OSA
5.81	Violated the "Team Residency Rule"	\$1000.00 fine + \$2000.00 Bond	\$3000.00 fine + \$5000.00 bond	\$5000.00 fine + \$10000.00 bond

Table 11: 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 Policy 9.12)	\$200.00 fine	\$400.00 fine	\$600.00 fine
6.67	Acted in a manner deemed to be detrimental to the game. (see restrictions in Policy 9.12)	\$1,000.00 fine + \$2,000.00	\$3,000.00 fine + \$5,000.00	\$5,000.00 fine + \$10,000.00

		bond	bond	bond
6.68	a) Changed any information on a registration form without the consent of the person being registered on such form. b) Provided false or inaccurate information on a registration form. c) Falsified a signature on a registration form.	\$500.00 fine	\$1,000.00 fine	\$2,000.00 fine
6.74	Failure to abide by the OSA published maximum referee game fees policies.	\$1000.00 fine	\$2000.00 fine	\$3000.00 fine + operation of league subject to withdrawal
6.75	directly or indirectly encouraged or assisted in the establishment or operation of a soccer organization or competition unless that soccer organization is an affiliated governing organization of The OSA	\$1000.00 fine	\$3000.00 fine	\$5000.00 fine

Table 12: 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".	\$250.00 fine	\$500.00 fine	\$1,000.00 fine
7.66	Intentionally acted in contravention of, or failed to act in accordance with, a "Published Rule". (see restrictions in Policy 9.12)	\$200.00 fine	\$400.00 fine	\$600.00 fine
7.67	Acted in a manner deemed to be detrimental to the game. (see restrictions in Policy 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	a) Changed any information on a registration form without the consent of the person being registered on such form. b) Provided false or inaccurate information on a registration form. c) Falsified a signature on a registration form.	\$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 a soccer organization or competition unless that soccer organization is an affiliated governing organization of The OSA	\$1000.00 fine	\$3000.00 fine	\$5000.00 fine
7.82	Failed to provide the required "case information " within the required time-frames about: a) a Game Official Assault Case b) Ontario Cup discipline referred to the District Association	\$100.00 fine	\$100.00 fine	\$100.00 fine

Related Topics:

Policy 10.0 - GAME OFFICIAL ASSAULT

10.1 Reporting a Game Official Assault

10.1.1 A **Game Official Assault** shall be reported in accordance with [Policy 4.4](#) .

10.2 Immediate Suspension

10.2.1 Within 24 hours after receipt of the report, the District Association shall notify the alleged offender, his/her Club and League, that he/she is immediately suspended from all soccer related activity, pending a hearing by an O.S.A. Discipline Hearing Panel in the District Association with which he/she is registered or with which his/her Club is affiliated.

10.3 Jurisdiction

10.3.1 In accordance with [Policy 5.2](#) , the O.S.A. 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 the O.S.A.'s Discipline Hearing Panel in the hearing of such cases.

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

10.4 Attendance of Game Official at Discipline Hearing For Game Official Assault

10.4.1 If the game official, who has filed a report alleging **Game 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 **Game Official Assault** shall be dismissed. For each time the game official fails to attend a scheduled Discipline Hearing without valid reason, the game official shall be fined in accordance with [Policy 9.0](#) .

10.5 Decision Pertaining to Game Official Assault Case

10.5.1 When suspending a registrant for **Game Official Assault**, the *Discipline Hearing Panel* shall include any period of suspension already served.

10.5.2 If the accused is found guilty of **Game Official Assault**, the Club of the accused shall be assessed a "Discipline Hearing Administrative Fee."

10.5.3 Disposition of all cases involving **Game Official Assault** shall be reported to the O.S.A. Office within 21 days after the completion of the hearing including the findings and decision.

Related Topics:

Policy 11.0 - DISCIPLINE AT TOURNAMENTS

- 11.1 The governing organization responsible for the tournament shall ensure the Discipline Chair has current Discipline Certification level 1 status.
- 11.2 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.
- 11.3 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
- 11.4 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 game official's report, together with any other reports, to its District Association;
- 11.5 In the case of a **Game Official Assault** in a tournament, the offender shall be immediately suspended from all soccer related activities, pending a hearing by an O.S.A. Discipline Hearing Panel.
 - a) the game official shall submit his/her report to the District Association in which he/she resides and to the O.S.A.;
 - 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 Game 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 O.S.A. Discipline Hearing Panel.
- 11.6 The Tournament's Host organization shall forward to its governing organization:
 - a) within two 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 seven 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 the O.S.A

Related Topics:

Policy 12.0 - SERVING SUSPENSIONS

- 12.1 Any suspension for **Game Official Assault** shall begin on the date the accused ceased to participate in all soccer activities.
- 12.2 A registrant suspended in a league, league cup, league play-off or any other league competition shall serve the suspension with the league.
- 12.3 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.
- 12.4 If a registrant is suspended for a specific number of scheduled games in (a) designated competition(s) and if before the suspension has been fully served:
 - a) the registrant leaves the team and registers with another team, or
 - b) the registrant team leaves its League and becomes part of another League
 - c) the registrant's team has completed its tournament schedule, the remaining games in the registrant's suspension shall be transferred to the games of the new team or the new league.
- 12.5 Notwithstanding **Policy 12.3**, a person suspended by a Club for violation of a "**Club's Published Rule**" shall be suspended from that Club's activities only.

Related Topics:

Policy 13.0 - SUSPENSION REVIEW

- 13.1 Anyone under suspension for two years or longer may request a review of his/her period of suspension after at least half of such suspension has been served.
- 13.2 Notwithstanding **Policy 13.1** , in any case in which the suspension exceeds six years, a review may be requested after three years of such suspension has been served.
- 13.3 A "Request for a Suspension Review" shall be made to the organization which rendered the suspension.
- 13.4 A letter of recommendation from an Governing Organization except the District Association receiving the "Request for a Suspension Review" must accompany any such request.
- 13.5 In the case of reviewing a suspension which resulted from a **Game 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 O.S.A. form and submitted with a recorded payment of the correct fee in accordance with Operational Procedure **15.0** and
 - c) an O.S.A. Suspension Review Panel shall be appointed by the District Association receiving the application and shall act as the O.S.A.'s Suspension Review Panel in the reviewing of such suspension.

Related Topics:

Policy 14.0 - FEES, FINES, BONDS AND ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS

14.1 Schedule of Fees, Fines, Bonds and Penalties

14.1.1 Each Governing Organization shall define the amounts for its own "Schedule of Fees, Fines, Bonds and Penalties" to be implemented in discipline under its jurisdiction and shall include such schedule in its "Published Rules."

14.1.2 The "Schedule of Fees and Penalties" outlined in **Table 13 in Operational Procedure 15.0** is applicable only to cases handled by an O.S.A. Discipline Hearing / Review Panel and are mandatory amounts. Fines for cases under the O.S.A jurisdiction are as outlined in Tables 5-12 in Policy 9.0.

14.2 Discipline Hearing Administrative Fees

14.2.1 A "Discipline Hearing Administrative Fee" may only:

- a) Be charged if the accused registrant is found guilty
- b) In the case of a Player, Team Official or Administrator, be charged to the Club with which the guilty person is registered or affiliated

14.2.2 Of the \$200.00 Discipline Hearing Administrative Fee" levied to the Club of the accused when has been found guilty of **game official assault**, the District Association appointing the O.S.A. Discipline Hearing Panel shall retain \$150.00 and remit \$50.00 to the O.S.A.

14.3 Bonds

14.3.1 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.

14.4 Failure to pay monetary fines, administrative fees or bonds within the required timeframes stipulated in the written decision

14.4.1 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 imposed penalty (plus the original fee, fine, bond) is paid.

Related Topics: