

Aurora Minor Soccer League

Discipline Procedure

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1. Definitions:

In this procedure:

“participant” means a player or coach who is subject to discipline;

“supplemental discipline” means the imposition of a period of suspension in addition to the remainder of the game or activity in which the participant is ejected.

2. Discipline Jurisdiction:

These procedures apply to soccer games, scrimmages, practices, evaluation camps and similar activities conducted under the auspices of AMSL.

AMSL will recognize and apply a discipline sanction imposed on an AMSL player or coach by the Northwest Territories Soccer Association or by a soccer disciplinary authority operating outside the Northwest Territories.

3. Discipline Authorities:

The AMSL Discipline Authorities are set out as follows:

Referee – the Referee is the discipline authority of first instance, and he or she has authority over the playing surface, players, coaches and spectators immediately before, during and after a game. For all purposes of this Procedure “Referee” includes both paid referees and persons who volunteer to serve as referee on an ad hoc basis where a paid referee is unavailable or where teams are scrimmaging.

Discipline Director - the Vice President shall serve as the Discipline Director, and is responsible for the imposition of automatic supplemental discipline in accordance with this procedure.

Discipline Appeal Committee - the Head Referee, Head Coach and a Division Coordinator appointed by the Executive shall serve as the Discipline Appeal Committee in accordance with this procedure. Where a member of the Committee has a conflict of interest or is otherwise unavailable to participate in an appeal, the President shall designate an acting member to serve in place of the member for purposes of the appeal.

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Head Referee – the Head Referee serves as chair of the Discipline Appeal Committee.

4. Acts of Misconduct by Players

A player who receives two cautions (yellow cards) or one red card in a game is ejected for the remainder of that game and is automatically suspended for the entirety of the next following game.

5. Acts of Misconduct by Coaches:

Automatic supplemental punishment for offenses leading to an ejection of a coach:

1. Abusing the referee through dissent results in a minimum 2 game suspension.
2. Abusive conduct exceeding dissent, or hindering the referee's attempts to maintain discipline on or about the field of play results in a minimum 4 game suspension.
3. Spitting at, threatening, attempting to make physical contact or making physical contact with the referee prior to, during or after the game results in a minimum 20 game suspension.
4. Minimum suspensions under this section are in addition to and do not count the game in which the infraction occurred.

6. Suspension:

1. All suspensions commence immediately with effect from the next following game. Suspensions must be served in full over the course of consecutive games.
2. Suspensions imposed relating to conduct in regular league games continue to apply during tournaments and playoffs. A suspension that cannot be served in full during one season continues into the next season.
3. Any participant violating a suspension must be referred immediately to the Discipline Director for further action. The Discipline Director may impose an additional suspension of 20 games.

7. Imposition of Supplemental Discipline:

1. Upon ejecting a player or a coach, the referee shall advise that participant:
 - (a) of the minimum period of suspension applicable to the offence,
 - (b) that the suspension commences immediately,
 - (c) that the Discipline Director may impose additional punishment if the participant is a repeat offender or if the circumstances of the offence are aggravating,
 - (d) that the participant has a right of appeal to the Discipline Appeals Committee.
2. The referee shall, as soon as is possible, report the circumstances of any infraction leading to the ejection of a participant in writing to the Head Referee and the Discipline Director. In that report the referee must indicate whether or not he or she considers that further supplemental discipline may be warranted beyond the automatic one game suspension.
3. The Discipline Director shall review the circumstances of the offence and the discipline file of the participant to determine if he or she is a repeat offender, and shall determine whether an additional supplemental suspension is required beyond the minimum suspension.
4. If the Discipline Director determines that an additional supplemental suspension is required, he or she shall notify the participant and the coach of the participant, where applicable, of the period of the suspension and of the right of appeal to the Discipline Appeals Committee. The Discipline Director shall also give notice to the Head Referee.

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8. Appeals:

1. A participant who has been subjected to supplemental discipline may appeal to the Discipline Appeals Committee by notifying the Head Referee in writing.
2. A suspension continues during the period of an appeal unless the Head Referee orders otherwise.
3. Upon receiving a notice of appeal the Head Referee shall attempt to convene a hearing of the Discipline Appeals Committee within 7 days.
4. The Discipline Appeals Committee shall hold an oral hearing, though it may accept written submissions.
5. The Head Referee shall invite the participant, the parent or guardian of a participant who is a minor, the referee and such witnesses as the Head Referee considers useful to attend and make submissions at the hearing.
6. The Discipline Appeals Committee may make its decision at the conclusion of the hearing or within 5 days after adjournment of the hearing.
7. The Head Referee shall notify the participant, his or her parent or guardian where applicable, his or her coach where applicable, and the referee of the decision of the Discipline Appeals Committee.
8. The decision of the Discipline Appeals Committee is final and is not subject to further appeal.