

**CUSA**

CALGARY UNITED SOCCER ASSOCIATION

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# **DISCIPLINE CODE**

# **2023**

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## Introduction

1. This Code describes and categorizes varying infractions by degrees of severity and then outlines the penalties applied to such infractions. Not all infractions may be listed specifically; however, infractions of similar intent and/or consequence will receive like suspensions.
2. The Discipline Committee shall have the authority to apply additional sanctions or suspend any portion of a suspension, fine, bond or other discipline action at their discretion. The Discipline Committee has the right to uphold or decrease the suspension, fine or bonds applied under the Discipline by Review process, and in extraordinary cases increase the penalty according to the circumstances and severity of the incident. However, please note, in challenging a Discipline by Review decision, the participant is giving up his/her opportunity for a one game reduction in suspension (in lieu of the right to challenge the decision).
3. The Discipline Committee may reduce any fine or suspension which a party would otherwise receive, if the Discipline Committee, acting reasonably, determines that the behaviour of the party subject to review was primarily defensive.
4. Decisions of the Committee are based on the preponderance of the evidence- that being just enough information to make it more likely than not that the alleged misconduct occurred. This preponderance is based on the more convincing evidence and its probable truth or accuracy, and not on the amount of evidence.
5. Misconduct, as defined by the Discipline Code Sections, may be adjudicated either by Review (CUSA administrator) and/or by Hearing (Discipline Committee) as follows:

Discipline by Review (DBR)*	Discipline by Hearing (DBH)
A (1-5)	A (6)
B – I	J, K
L, M, O (1-16 19)	N, O (17 &18)
P, R, T – W	Q, S

\*Any misconduct can be forwarded directly to the Discipline Committee at the discretion of the Administrator

## PART I PARTICIPANT / TEAM INFRACTIONS

### At the time of ejection

1. Ejected players must be out of the line of sight of the referee and/or not in a position to influence or interfere with game or team officials, or participants from the match.
2. Any player/participant given an ejection for an incident either prior to the start of the game, during or after the conclusion of the game must surrender his/her card to the game official forthwith.

### When and where to serve a suspension

3. Suspensions must be served immediately after the infraction
4. For an individual to have served a game suspension, their team must “physically” play a League or Cup game, or an Association scheduled Tournament game without their services. Suspensions can only be served on the team the player is registered to.
5. Suspensions shall be consecutive between seasons. Cautions accumulated in a single season, shall be nullified at the end of the season (except when it is the third caution in the last game of the season). Suspensions carry into the next season played.
6. A suspension earned in CUSA is to be served exclusively in CUSA, unless otherwise specified (such as a suspension from ‘all of soccer’). A concurrent suspension in another league is at that league’s discretion.

Participants in CUSA receiving a suspension totaling two (2) or more games will be assessed an additional minimum \$15.00/game fine.

#### **During a suspension**

7. Any participant under suspension for any of the Sections contained herein shall not involve themselves with the game in any manner, other than as a spectator. They shall not enter the dressing room or sit on the bench. The exception shall be those suspended players in possession of valid ID card as a team official.
8. Team officials, while suspended, are not allowed in any way to influence, or be perceived to be influencing, the outcome of the game, including but not limited to, talking to players advising of such things as positioning on the field, calling for substitutions, or meeting with player(s) before or during the game.

#### **When registered as both a player and a coach**

9. Participants registered as both a player and a team official, who receive a suspension as a team official, are not eligible to participate in soccer related activities (see definitions).
10. Participants who are registered as both a player and a team official and who receive a suspension as a player are still eligible to participate as a team official.

#### **First time offences, Repeat offences, Severity of incident**

11. For first-time offenders only, the Discipline Committee may hold over a portion of the suspension for up to 24 months. These games will be added to future discipline outcomes if the individual receives another suspension within the next 24-month period.
12. Repeat offences for players refer to any offence which occurs within Sections A, C – J within 24 months. Repeat offences for teams refer to any offence that falls within any of Sections O (15-19), Q, R., or S within 24 months.
13. The severity of the incident and any past record held by the individual may result in an increased suspension and/or penalties.

#### **Financial**

14. Participants receiving a suspension totaling two (2) or more games will be assessed a minimum \$15.00/game fine in addition to any suspension. Additional fines and bonds may be levied.
15. Additional games may be served In lieu of fines. One (1) additional game must be served for every \$15.00 in fines owed. Either the fine must be paid in total or games served for the total fine owed. Players must seek approval from the League in advance to be able to serve games in lieu of fines. Games in lieu of bond payment are not acceptable. Additional fines in lieu of games will also not be accepted.

#### **Other**

16. For any suspension involving six (6) or more games (Section G or higher infractions only), the participant often must successfully complete a District Referee course within a 12-month period or pay a performance bond of \$500.00 or perform 25 hours of volunteerism acceptable to CUSA. Unless specified otherwise, volunteer service within a soccer environment is not acceptable except when it relates to any fundraising or other activities within CUSA where volunteers are required i.e., Casino volunteer. Any player who does not complete the above requirement within the specified time and who does not play for the following amount of time from the date they last played will be allowed to return.  
 12 months     24 months     36 months     other \_\_\_\_\_
17. If a red carded player chooses not to make an appointment with the Discipline Committee, the player accepts any discipline received less one (1) game, with no reduction to any fines received. In the case of

a one (1) game suspension, there will be no reduction in games suspended. Players not making an appointment forfeit the right of appeal.

18. Registered minor players red carded while playing up, will be suspended on a time basis in which a one (1) game suspension will be equal to a one (1) week ban from playing up, i.e., 4 games equal 4 weeks.
19. Suspensions and/or monetary penalties for team officials may be doubled, as team officials carry a greater burden of responsibility in their leadership role.
20. When a suspension is combined with a fine, the suspension may be prolonged until any fines and/or bonds have been paid in full.

## PARTICIPANT INFRACTIONS

### REPEAT OFFENCES

For repeat offences (within **24** months) in Code Sections A, or C- F, the penalties will be as follows: the suspension listed plus 2-7 games.

#### Section A

Offences Directed at Game Officials- DBR (except A 6)	
Offence	Suspension
1. Disregard for a decision of a game official.	2
2. Offensive or insulting or abusive language and/or gestures (as so deemed by the game official) directed at the game official <u>and</u> at a game where at least two (2) CS assigned officials are in attendance	3- 5
3. Offensive or insulting or abusive language and/or minor indecent gestures (as so deemed by the game official) directed at a game official <u>and</u> at a game where only one (1) CS assigned official is in attendance.	4- 6
4. Serious indecent gestures, i.e., “mooning” or grabbing genital area directed at a game official.	6
5. OIAL after ejection and aimed directly at the official.	3-5
6. Threats of harm or violence, either actual or implied, aimed at an official or people close to the official; attempts to intimidate or intimidation of official, spitting at an official. Sent to Alberta Soccer Association for consideration as to whether they will facilitate Hearing or pass back to District (DBH)	Suspension: at the discretion of the Discipline Committee. Fine: to a max. of \$500 Bond: to a max. of \$1000 Possible referee course
7. Penalties for breach of 2-metre distancing requirement (June 2021)	1st offence = 2-4 games 2 <sup>nd</sup> offence = 5-8 games 3 <sup>rd</sup> offence = 9-12 games 4 <sup>th</sup> offence = Discipline Committee

#### Section B

1 Game Offence- DBR		
Offence	#	Suspension
1. Any player sent off for a. Denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball. b. Denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player’s goal by an offence punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick.	1st	1
	2nd	2
2. Players ejected for a second cautionable offence in the same game.	repeat	4
3. Players receiving three (3) cautions (yellow cards) in three (3) separate games. Players who fail to comply will be deemed as “ <i>playing when ineligible.</i> ”		

**Interpretation**

**A, A 5.** Layering of offences to continue except as it relates to OIAL and OIAL after ejection. This combination only is seen to be one offence rather than two except in unusual circumstances. Source: Board Mar. 2012

**Section C**

2 Game Offences- DBR	
Offence	
1.	Failure of an individual to leave the field or field area in a timely manner after receiving a dismissal by the official <u>and</u> at a game where at least two (2) CSF assigned officials are in attendance.
2.	Offensive or insulting or abusive language and/ or gestures (as so deemed by the game official). Note: See Section A when OIAL is directed at game official.
3.	Continued provocation or irresponsible behavior (as so deemed by the game official) after being ejected from a game.
4.	Returning to field after dismissal.
5.	Boarding, incidental

**Section D**

3 Game Offences- DBR	
Offence	
1.	Third man-in altercation or leaving the bench or technical area (No blows).
2.	Intentionally striking a participant, or spectator deliberately with the ball.
3.	pushing, pulling, slapping, or tripping an opposing player; other lesser violent conduct contact not covered elsewhere in the discipline code. (April 2023)
4.	Goalie leaving the penalty area to join an altercation, no blows.
5.	Threatening or attempting to kick, punch or elbow, no physical contact, attempting to strike a participant or spectator deliberately with the ball.

**Section E**

4 Game Offences- DBR	
Offence	
1.	Continued offensive or insulting or abusive language and/or gestures (as so deemed by the game official) after being ejected from a game.
2.	Head locking or choking an opponent, grabbing opponent's genitals.
3.	Throwing a player to the ground.
4.	Serious Foul Play (SFP) - Charging/tackling in a dangerous manner, without intent to injure.
5.	Boarding, endangering the safety of an opponent. See G (3) for Boarding with brutality.
6.	Hair pulling, deliberate scratch.
7.	Attempted or threatened head butt. <b>Note: 4-7 games for this offence.</b>
8.	Failure of an individual to leave the field or field area in a timely manner after receiving a dismissal by the official <u>and</u> at a game where only one (1) CSF assigned official is in attendance.

**Interpretation**

**C 6.** Generally, individuals returning to the field at the end of the game who do not interfere in any way with the game, its participants or officials are not to be sanctioned.

**E 5.** Generally, first time offenders serve only 2 games if offence does not appear to be a deliberate act.

Source: Precedents

**Section F**

5 Game Offences- DBR	
Offence	
1.	Kick or knee (not to head), punch, elbow, or 'clothes lining' an opponent. See I (2) for kick or knee to head.
2.	Serious indecent gestures, i.e., "mooning" or grabbing genital area.
3.	Attempting to incite fans.

REPEAT OFFENCES
For repeat offences (within 24 months) in Code Sections, G – J, the penalties will be as follows: the suspension listed plus 4 – 12 games.

**Section G**

6 Game Offences- DBR and Referee Course or up to \$500 bond or volunteerism can be added	
Offence	
1.	Fighting, more than one punch or elbow thrown. Consideration to be given for an increase in suspension if the player is the instigator.
2.	Charging or tackling in a dangerous manner, with intent to injure.
3.	Boarding – with brutality.

**Section H**

7 Game Offences- DBR and Referee Course or up to \$500 bond or volunteerism can be added	
Offence	
1.	Third man-in altercation, one or more blows.
2.	Initiating a fight with a substitute on the bench or a substitute initiating a fight.
3.	Individuals leaving the bench to join an altercation.
4.	Goalie leaving the penalty area to join an altercation, one or more blows.

**Section I**

<b>8 - 12 Game Offences- DBR and Referee Course or up to \$500 bond or volunteerism can be added</b>	
Offence	Suspension
1. Individuals leaving the penalty box to join an altercation.	8
2. Head butting, kick, or knee to head.	8
3. Kicking, more than one kick.	8
4. Leaving the bench without permission to cause an altercation.	10
5. Leaving the penalty box to cause an altercation.	12

**Section J**

<b>18 Game Offence- DBH and Referee Course or \$500 bond</b>	
Offence	
1. A violent altercation after a game, inside or outside the field of play.	
2. Uncontrollable rage, without assault, having to be physically restrained.	
3. Spitting or the projection of other body fluids at participants, when reported by the referee.	
4. Returning to the field after removal for red card offence to join or cause an altercation.	

**Section K**

<b>Time Suspensions- DBH</b>	
Offence	Suspension
1. A participant is ejected for assault in a fit on uncontrollable rage, having to be physically restrained.	5-year removal from the League with the option of a review after 3 years, <u>and</u> fine (max. \$500) <u>and</u> bond (max. \$1000)
2. A participant leaves the playing area to fight with fans.	
3. A participant intentionally disguises their identity, i.e., removes their jersey, fails to provide an ID card for an offence after the game, or attempts to retrieve cards retained by the referee.	
4. A participant receiving three (3) red cards within a twelve (12) month period.	up to 1 year removal from the league. \$0 - \$1000 bond

**Section L**

Participating When Ineligible- DBR		
Offence	#	Suspension
1. As a guest player outside the provisions of the restrictive movement regulation.	1 <sup>st</sup>	2
2. When cup-tied (Men’s only).	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3
3. When not registered for the current season and having been a registered CUSA member for some time during the last four (4) soccer seasons.		
4. When registered but without a valid ID card.	Repeat	4
5. When entering the field of play after arriving at the field once the second half has commenced.		
6. In the game(s) following a professional foul.		2 (In addition to those games to be served under section B)
7. In the game(s) following the game where a second caution was earned.		
8. In the game(s) following their third/sixth/ninth yellow card infraction.		
9. When playing while registered in two (2) districts in the same season. Consideration for extra game(s) if knowingly asked for a release but continued to play for both teams.	1st	2

**Section M**

Participating When Illegal- DBR		
Offence	#	Suspension
1. When registered with another team, except when registered as a club/team official.	1 <sup>st</sup>	Up to 12 months. Fine up to \$500.00
2. When not registered, and not having been registered within the previous four (4) soccer seasons.		
3. When suspended for any reason other than those infractions listed in Section L.	repeat	18 months – 5 years
4. When playing or attempting to play under an assumed name.		
5. Playing while suspended under Section L		Any games that were held over will be transferred to the suspension immediately.

**Section N**

Indefinite Suspensions- DBH	
Offence	Suspension
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any individual found guilty of inviting spectators onto the field of play with the purpose of engaging members of the opposing team.</li> <li>Any individual found guilty of uttering discriminatory slurs or similar discriminatory remarks or gestures.</li> <li>Any individual found guilty inciting violence among spectators.</li> <li>Any individual found guilty of coughing, spitting, purposely sneezing, projection of any bodily fluid onto another individual explicitly or purposely to threaten infection or passing on of infection. Any individual heard verbally threatening to do any of the above actions to intentionally intimidate or unsettle opponent.</li> </ol>	<p>Suspended indefinitely, for no less than one year, with a review after 1 year.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Bond \$250-\$1000</p>

**Section X**

Team Officials- DBR		
	#	Suspension
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Straight red card (to include, but not limited to: OIAL directed at official, entering the field of play without permission, verbal, or physical confrontations.) (Please note verbal or physical threats directed at officials will still be dealt with in Section A6)</li> </ol>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2-10 games
	2 <sup>nd</sup> DBH	4-18 games Bond \$0-\$1000
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <p>A) Coach ejected for 2nd cautionable offence in the same game (April 2023)</p> <p>B) Coaches receiving two (2) cautions (yellow cards) in two (2) separate games. Coaches who fail to comply will be deemed as “playing when ineligible.”</p> <p>C) Coaches receiving four (4) yellow cards in 4 separate games during a season.</p> </li> </ol>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 games
	DBH	3-10 games Bond \$0-\$500
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Team official listed on the game sheet in a game where an individual plays or attempts to play under an assumed name. (April 2023)</li> </ol>	1st	Up to 12 Months. Up to \$500 Fine
	Repeat	18 Months – 5 Years.

**Please note: Player/Coaches who wish to officially represent as both a player and coach in a specific game must list their name on both appropriate coach/player sections of the game sheet. Any cautionable offences should be noted in the applicable sections and will be recorded cumulatively separately. A total of 2 yellow cards shown in a game, irrespective of whether received as a coach or player, will result in a dismissal and the individual leaving the playing area**

**TEAM INFRACTIONS**

**REPEAT OFFENCES**

Repeat offences for teams refer to any offence that falls within any of Sections O (15-19), Q, R, or S within 24 months.

**Section O**

**Administrative or On-Field Forfeitures (With or Without Fines)- DBR except O (18)**

**Note:** Three (3) on-field forfeitures within a season results in a recommendation by the Discipline Committee to the Board for team removal from the league. A combination of four (4) administrative and on-field forfeitures will result in a recommendation to the Board for team removal from the league. Removal is at the discretion of the Board.

Offence	#	Suspension
1. Utilizing ineligible participants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. As a guest player outside the provisions of the restrictive movement regulation.</li> <li>b. When cup tied.</li> <li>c. When not registered for the current season and has been a registered CUSA member sometime during the previous four (4) soccer seasons.</li> <li>d. When registered but without a valid ID card.</li> <li>e. When entering the field of play after arriving at the field once the second half has commenced.</li> <li>f. When not on or added to the game sheet following commencement of the game.</li> <li>g. When team members do not have a numbered jersey or jersey numbers are not permanent. (See rule 6.1.2).</li> <li>h. When a player does not have their own jersey, except when changed with the approval of the game official because of blood or if the shirt is torn. Not to include attempts to disguise identity by exchanging jerseys. (See O (19))</li> </ul>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Forfeiture only
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Forfeiture, \$50 fine.
	Further Repeat Forfeiture, \$100 fine.	
2. Failure to have a roster of within the minimum/maximum allowed registered players for the entire season.		
3. Exceeding the allowable number of participants on team bench (team officials and/or players).		
4. Having individuals without having a valid ID card for that team and/or club, present in the bench area of a team.		
	1 <sup>st</sup>	Forfeiture, \$50 fine

5. Failure to provide an alternate-coloured uniform, which results in game cancellation.	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Forfeiture, \$100 fine
6. Failure to supply a game sheet, or two (2) suitable game balls when they are stipulated “home team” which results in, or should have resulted in, game cancellation.  7. Utilizing ineligible participants: a. in the game(s) following the game where their third/sixth/ninth yellow card infraction was earned. b. in the game(s) following the game where a professional foul was earned. (Repeat offence \$200 fine, bond, recommend removal). c. in the game(s) following the game where a second caution was earned. (Repeat offence \$200 fine, bond, recommend removal).	Repeat	Forfeiture, \$100 fine
8. Utilizing illegal participants: a. who is registered with another team, except when registered as a team/club official. b. when not registered, and not having been registered within the previous four (4) soccer seasons. c. when suspended for any reason.  10. Failure to arrive with ID cards.  11. Failure to maintain the minimum number of players during the game. April 2017	1 <sup>st</sup>	Forfeiture, \$150 fine, bond
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Forfeiture, \$300 fine, bond
	Repeat	Forfeiture, Recommend removal
12. Failure to arrive for a scheduled CUSA/Co-Ed game  a. with advance notification of 30 or more days. April 2017  _____	1 <sup>st</sup>	Forfeiture only
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Forfeiture, \$150 fine
	Repeat	Forfeiture, Recommend removal
	1 <sup>st</sup>	Forfeiture, \$150 fine
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Forfeiture, \$300 fine
	Repeat	Forfeiture, Recommend removal
	1 <sup>st</sup>	Forfeiture, \$300 fine
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Forfeiture, \$600 fine
	Repeat	Forfeiture, Recommend removal
	c. with less than 3 business days’ notice.  d. Failure to have the minimum number of players dressed and ready within the time allowable for kick-off may be subject to: April 2017	

13. Failure to produce CUSA ID cards for individuals on team bench and/or not listing individuals on the game sheet. 14. Utilizing more than the allowable number of participants. 15. When an individual(s) leaves the bench to join an altercation. 16. When an individual ejected from a game remains at or returns to the playing area.	1 <sup>st</sup>	Forfeiture. \$150 fine, bond.
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Forfeiture \$300 fine, bond.
	Repeat	Forfeiture, Recommend removal
17. Causing the abandonment of the game. <b>DBH</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Forfeiture, \$50 - \$500 fine, bond.
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Forfeiture, \$100 - \$2000 fine, bond.
	Repeat	Forfeiture, \$100 - \$2000 fine, bond, recommend removal from league.
18. Utilizing or attempting to utilize an ineligible/illegal individual, intentionally disguising the identity or role of the individual. (DBH) <small>April 2017</small>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Forfeiture, \$100 - \$2000 fine, bond. Disqualified from promotion and attending Provincials
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Forfeiture, \$100 - \$2000 fine, bond. Relegation at season end at discretion of Committee
	Repeat	Forfeiture. Recommend removal from league (if within 12 months)

## Section P

'Other' Team Discipline- DBR		
Offence	#	Suspension
1. Failure to provide an alternate-coloured uniform when home team, not resulting in game cancellation. 2. Failure to wear posted jersey colors to a game.	1 <sup>st</sup>	Warning Only
3. Failure to supply two (2) suitable game balls, when they are stipulated "home team" resulting in delay of game; however, not resulting in game cancellation.	2 <sup>nd</sup>	\$25.00

4. Failure to provide an official CUSA game sheet, not resulting in game cancellation.	Repeat	\$50.00
5. Causing a scheduled kick off delay.		
6. Inadvertent failure of a participant to provide an ID card to the game official prior to entering the field of play but produced upon request of the official or opposing team. No attempt to deceive.		
7. Failure to identify an individual as a coach or manager on the game sheet but has a valid ID card on request (June 2020)		
8. Failure to have a consistent uniform kit for the entire team.	1st	\$25.00
9. Failure to provide an assistant referee. For those divisions that do not have a scheduled assistant referee, each team must supply one, regardless of the number of players in attendance at the game. This person must be 16 years of age or older.	2nd	\$50.00
	Repeat	\$50.00
10. Failure to attend provincials when team qualifies.	\$2000 & six (6) points deducted from standings at commencement of next season (ID to ID and OD to OD).	
11. Failure to adhere to the Team Travel Code of Conduct	Automatic review from the Board with potential of lost eligibility to represent CUSA at Provincials for up to 12 months and possible further sanctioning	

## Section Q

Conduct of Spectators, Leaving the Field Without Permission- DBH		
Offence	Outcome	
1. Teams are responsible and accountable for the conduct of their spectators. Team supporters who enter the field of play may cause the team to be suspended from further play, further discipline by the League and they may face expulsion from the league.	Fine	Max. \$2000
	Bond	Max. \$10,000
2. Teams causing abandonment of a game by leaving the field of play without the referee's permission will be suspended for one (1) year and not reinstated until a performance bond is paid.	and Forfeiture	

**GENERAL**

**Section R**

Abuse or Harassment, Falsification of Information- DBR		
Offence	Outcome	
1. Additional penalties may be applied if an individual continues with dissent/abuse after ejection.	Fines	Max. \$500
	Bonds	Max. \$1000
2. Verbal abuse of any League member, League Board or Committee Member or League staff, will result in additional sanctions such as, but not limited to, monetary penalties and/or curtailment to League office/activities.	Bonds	Max. \$1000
3. Any participant who changes any information on a registration form without the consent of the person registered on such form or provides false or inaccurate information on such registration form, or falsifies a signature on a registration form, may be subject to penalties applied at the discretion of the Committee.	Participant Fine	Max \$500
	Participant Bond	Max. \$1000
	Participant Suspension	Left to discretion of the Discipline Committee.
	Team Fine	Max. \$2000
	Team Bond	Max. \$10,000
4. Providing false information, or withholding information (including date of birth, and where last registered if outside the City of Calgary) on a player registration form, or providing a false address, or registering under a false name, will result in penalties at the discretion of the Committee.	Participant Fines	Max. \$500
	Participant Bond	Max. \$1000
	Participant Suspension	At the discretion of the Discipline Committee.

**Interpretation**

**Q** Consideration by the Discipline Committee is to be given to the fact that except in cases where fans impede upon the field, there is little that a team can do to control a fan. That means that if an official removes a fan or has security remove a fan then it is not an issue for which the team bears any responsibility. Unless certain criteria can be established i.e., the fan has a relationship to the team i.e., father of player, and unless the team is in a position where they can influence the behavior of the fan i.e., fan standing beside the bench, the team cannot be held responsible for the behavior of the fan. However, generally teams should still be advised that they are responsible so that where possible they influence their fans to behave in an acceptable manner.  
Source: Board Mar. 2012

**Section 5**

Bringing the Game into Disrepute through Unsportsmanlike Behavior- DBH		
Offence	Outcome	
<p>1. Unsporting behavior occurs when the game is brought into disrepute by unexpected or unprecedented behavior. It offends the spirit of the game and can be directed against opponents, colleagues, officials, or spectators.</p> <p>Teams who fail to control the behavior and actions of their players such that 2 or more red cards are earned in 2 separate games may also be bringing the game into disrepute by their inability to manage their player conduct and may be required to attend a Discipline Hearing.</p> <p>Traditionally, a sportsman is accepted as being honest, honourable, and truthful, a fair player, good loser, good example to others, a model of virtue, and a sportsman. It follows, therefore, that conduct opposite to these tenets is unsportsmanlike.</p> <p>Any individual who commits any act or makes any statement either verbally or in writing, or has been responsible for conduct, continuing misconduct or any other matter which is ungentlemanly, insulting, or improper behaviour or likely to bring the game into disrepute, is deemed to be displaying unsporting behaviour. This would include verbal threats (actual or implied) to inflict bodily harm, malicious statements to express a threat, to be a source of danger or menace, to announce the possibility of a threat or to give signs or warning of a possible threat.</p> <p>Individuals, teams, or clubs found to display unsportsmanlike behaviour may be subject to penalties applied at the discretion of the Discipline Committee.</p>	Participant Fine	Max \$500
	Participant Bond	Max. \$1000
	Participant Suspension	At the discretion of the Discipline Committee.
	Team Fine	Max. \$2000
	Team Bond	Max. \$10,000
	<p>2. Behavior that impacts the League in attaining or retaining field/facility permits and that is contrary to the terms of those permits will be unsportsmanlike. Examples of such behavior include, but are not limited to, the consumption of alcohol on facility property (except in a designated area provided by the facility), public urination, and smoking in dressing rooms.</p>	Possible recommendation for removal from the League.

**Section T**

Team Conduct and Team Fair Play- DBR	
Offence	Outcome
1. Three (3) on-field forfeitures within a season.	Immediate recommendation to Board for team removal from the League.
2. A <b>combination of four (4)</b> administrative and on-field forfeitures.	Immediate recommendation to Board for team removal from the League.
3. Fair Play Standards a. Men’s and Women’s  Failure to comply with Rule 12.5.1 or 17.7.1 April 2017	Team will receive a Discipline Notice outlining the Fair Play expectations for the team’s next registered season. Failure to meet those expectations will result in a hearing with the Discipline Committee.
b. Men’s and Women’s  Failure to comply with Rule 12.5.2 or 17.7.2 April 2017	Team will be required to appear before the Discipline Committee to discuss their actions. On an individual case-by-case basis, outcomes could include but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removal from the League with possible limitation of the number of team players being able to register onto any one other team in future seasons.</li> <li>• Fine and/or performance bond and continuation with probationary status.</li> <li>• Application of specific restrictions or conditions of acceptance into the League, i.e., removal of specific players or officials, limitation of fans.</li> <li>• No further action, team has taken satisfactory measures to address reasons why fair play score was low.</li> </ul>
c. Co-Ed  Failure to comply with Rule 22.6.1 April 2017	

**PART II ADDITIONAL OFFENCES/REQUIREMENTS**

**Section U**

Failure to Attend Hearing- DBR
1. Individuals or teams who book an appointment with the Discipline Committee and fail to attend shall be subject to a fine of a minimum of \$50.00.

**Section V**

Failure to Comply with League Requirements- DBR
1. Teams not being represented at an Annual General Meeting, or a Special General Meeting will be fined \$100.00 per eligible vote.

2. CUSA Member Teams, when requested, are required to provide at least one volunteer each for CUSA sponsored Casinos. Teams are subject to a minimum fine of \$50.00 for non-compliance.
3. Failure of teams to pay registration fees and other dues or levies on or before the stated deadline dates will incur a fine as per administrative guidelines and may be cause for expulsion from the League.

### PART III MONETARY PENALTIES

#### Section W

Fines and Bonds- DBR
1. All team fines must be paid before the next game and bonds must be paid in full within 30 days of being assessed, unless otherwise directed by the Discipline Committee, or the team may be removed from the league until such time the penalty has been paid.
2. All bonds shall be held for a minimum of 24 months, effective the date that the payment was received.
3. Fines will be imposed upon participants in the amount of \$15.00 per game to a maximum of \$500.00 for suspensions totaling two (2) or more games.
4. Monetary penalties to team officials may be doubled.
5. Individuals may be bonded to a maximum of \$1000 <i>per incident</i> .
6. Teams may be fined to a maximum of \$2000 <i>per incident</i> .
7. Teams may be bonded to a maximum of \$10,000 <i>per incident</i> .
8. All participant fines/bonds must be paid before reinstatement.
9. If a team fails to pay its fines or post any bonds, because of a specific game incident, and the team ceases to exist or is expelled from the League, all outstanding fines and/or bonds will be divided between all players and team officials listed on the game sheet of the occurrence that resulted in the fine and/or bond being levied against the team. These must be paid prior to the individual being allowed to register on another team within the CUSA.
10. If a team ceases to exist or is expelled from the League due to an accumulation of penalties or discipline, all outstanding fines and/or bonds will be divided between all players and team officials listed on the current roster. These must be paid prior to the individual being allowed to register on another team within the League.
11. If a team fails to pay its fines or post any bonds levied against them, the following will apply: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The outstanding fines and/or bonds will be divided between all participants on the game sheet, the game sheet being that of the date of the incident that resulted in the fine and/or bond being levied against the team. If the fine is not related to a game infraction, then the fine will be distributed to participants on the team roster. These must be paid prior to the individual being allowed to register on another team within the CUSA.</li> <li>b) When a specific date for payment of a bond has been entered on the Discipline Notice the team failing to make that payment will have all scheduled games following that date cancelled and shall be required to appear before the Board for consideration of removal from the League.</li> </ol>
12. All appeal fees, fines, and bonds must be submitted to the appropriate League.
13. Bonds may be revoked if the player or team fails to meet the specific obligations of membership in the League that were guaranteed by the bond.



## PART IV DEFINITIONS

Within this Code, the following words have meanings as provided.

- Annual General Meeting** the annual membership meeting of the League.
- ASA** the Alberta Soccer Association, the provincial governing body for soccer within Alberta.
- Assault** to attack someone physically or verbally in a violent way.
- Association** the Calgary United Soccer Association.
- Bench Official** includes those persons acting in the capacity of coach, manager, or trainer.
- Board** the Board of Directors of CUSA.
- Boarding** any contact by a player that forces an opponent to hit the perimeter wall in a manner that endangers the safety of that opponent. (Indoor game only).
- Bond (Performance Bond)** a financial guarantee to fulfill future obligations (previously not met).
- Caution** “A player is cautioned and shown the yellow card if they commits any of the seven following offences:
1. unsporting behaviour
  2. dissent by word or action
  3. persistently infringes the Laws of the game.
  4. delays the restart of a game
  5. fails to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick or free kick
  6. enters or re-enters the field of play without the referee’s permission
  7. deliberately leaves the field of play without the referee’s permission
  8. Spits on the field of play (Indoor game only)”
- Coach** an individual who provides or appears to provide instruction/guidance/direction and/or training to a team and its members.
- Co-Ed** Co-Ed Recreational Indoor Soccer
- Club** an organization with two or more teams, which share a common name, participating in at least one season annually.
- CSA** the Canadian Soccer Association, the national governing body for soccer within Canada.
- CUSA** Calgary United Soccer Association.
- CWSA** Calgary Women's' Soccer Association
- Default** see forfeiture.
- Discipline by Review (DBR)** discipline outcomes provided after administrative review of misconduct information only. Attendance at a hearing is still available, but optional.
- Discipline by Hearing (DBH)** discipline outcomes provided by Discipline Committee. Attendance at a hearing may or may not be mandatory.
- Dismissed** a term used when a red card issued to a player by a referee is removed, is no longer on that player's record and it is as if the card were never issued.
- Dissent** expressed disagreement.
- Director** a member who is elected or appointed to the Board.
- FIFA** the Federation Internationale de Football Association – the international governing body for soccer.
- Forfeiture** a game given up as a loss because of infractions committed by the team and or/players.
- Futsal** the FIFA approved form of Indoor soccer recognized by ASA as a developmental program.
- Game ball** suitable, as so deemed by the game official.
- Game official** referee, assistant referees.
- Ineligible** not entitled or qualified, see Section L.
- Illegal** against the rules, see Section M.
- Major Infraction** includes those infractions stated in Sections A, C – K.
- Manager** an individual who manages the affairs of the team/club.

**Member** a member in good standing of the Association.

**No Further Action** a term used when a carded player receives no further disciplinary action for his red card offence other than the balance of the game(s) they have already missed. The card remains on the player's record. See also 'Dismissed'.

**OIAL** offensive or insulting or abusive language and/or gestures (as so deemed by the game officials).

**Participant** an individual participating in any CUSA or Co-Ed game.

**Physically played** must meet minimum time requirement for the game to be official or if a match is abandoned, cancelled, or finally forfeited, a suspension is only considered to have been served if the team to which the suspended player belongs is not responsible for the facts that led to abandonment, cancellation or forfeit of the match.

**Player** a person taking (or intending to take) an active, on-field role in a game.

**Player/Coach** a person appearing to act in the capacity of both a player and a coach.

**Professional Foul** either denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goalkeeper in his own penalty area) or denies 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.

**Replacement Player** a player which replaces another on an ASA roster for Provincial Competition. See ASA Competition Rules for further guidelines around replacement players.

**Sending off offence (Red Card)** "a player is sent off and shown the red card if they commit any of the following seven offences:

1. serious foul play
2. violent conduct
3. spits at an opponent or any other person
4. denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goalkeeper in his own penalty area)
5. denies 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
6. uses offensive or insulting or abusive language and/or gestures
7. receives a second caution in the same match

**Serious Foul Play (SFP)** "A tackle that endangers the safety of the opponent must be sanctioned as Serious Foul Play."

**Soccer related activities** includes game activities such as coaching and/or managing and/or playing, and/or officiating (within CUSA and Co-Ed).

**Soccer season** the Indoor Season shall be that program running mid-October to April and the Outdoor Season shall be that program running May to mid-October.

**Special General Meeting** an additional general membership meeting of the League called to address issues specifically stated on the meeting notice.

**Suspension** "A suspension is to be served in terms of matches or for a specific time. Only those matches played count towards execution of the suspension. If a match is abandoned, cancelled, or finally forfeited, suspension is only considered to have been served if the team to which the suspended player belongs is not responsible for the facts that led to abandonment, cancellation or forfeit of the match. If a suspension is combined with a fine, the suspension may be prolonged until the fine has been paid in full". (From Article 20 FIFA Discipline Code)

**Team** a properly constituted or organized soccer team in the Calgary area.

**Team official** includes those persons appearing to act in the capacity of coach, manager, or trainer.

**Trainer** an individual who trains and/or helps prepare others for participation. This is usually accomplished with a planned program of appropriate physical exercises.

**Uniforms** a distinctive set of clothes for all team players consisting of a jersey, shorts and socks of uniform color and design. Each goalkeeper must wear colors that distinguish him from the other players, the referee, and the assistant referees.

**Unsporting Behaviour** behaviour, that is unexpected or unprecedented, and that brings the game into disrepute. For purposes of this Code, this definition does not refer to the Unsporting Behaviour that is a yellow card offence under FIFA rules.

**Unregistered participant** an individual who has not registered to a CUSA and/or Co-Ed team for the current season.

**Violent Conduct (VC)** “Violent conduct may occur either on the field of play or outside its boundaries, whether the ball is in play or not. A player is guilty of violent conduct if he uses excessive force or brutality against an opponent when not challenging for the ball. He is also guilty of violent conduct if he uses excessive force or brutality against a team-mate or any other person.”

## **SCHEDULE A- Discipline Committee Hearings**

### **Guidelines**

1. Discipline Hearings are held once a week. All Discipline cases received by the League will be sent to the next immediate hearing date, which is on *Thursdays* of most weeks, Hearings are held at the Calgary Soccer Centre.
2. An accused, or their representative, is afforded the opportunity to attend a Discipline Hearing.
  - a. To have a voice at a hearing, the accused or their representative must have been at the game/incident and identified on the game sheet.
    - i. Witnesses of the incident, not identified on the game sheet, can provide written accounts to the hearing.
  - b. Any individual not identified on the game sheet will be considered as a witness, not a representative and their attendance is at the discretion of the Committee. (to align with ASA policy)
  - c. Where the accused is below the age of majority, a designated representative of the age of majority must also be present.
    - i. An accused below the age of majority, playing in an adult league, can represent themselves at the hearing if written consent by their legal guardian has been provided.
    - ii. An accused below the age of majority can be represented by a team official that was present at the game/incident in question.
  - d. Representation for a team or Club at a Discipline Committee Hearing shall be restricted to individuals on the game sheet at the time of the incident. Team or Club officials may attend; however, their participation is at the discretion of the Committee.
  - e. At a hearing those representing the team or individual shall not exceed three individuals.
3. Any person accused of misconduct shall be given a written notice of pending discipline.
  - a. The notice shall provide the person and/or team representative with
    - i. either the possible suspension or opportunity to attend a discipline hearing,
    - ii. the opportunity to attend a discipline hearing, or
    - iii. the requirement to attend a mandatory discipline hearing.
  - b. Given that the League has published hearing dates then the following applies.
    - i. If the accused does not provide a response in the timelines specified in the written notice of pending discipline action, the League will assume that the accused is waiving their right to a hearing and will accept the prescribed penalties by the Discipline Committee.

- ii. By not responding to the written notice, a party is waiving their right to appeal the decision of the Discipline Committee.
    - iii. The accused or their representative may request that the discipline hearing be held on a future date other than the next immediate regular date following the incident and the receipt of the documentation. The Chairman of the Discipline Committee may decline a request of a team to hold over a team discipline depending on the nature and severity of the offence.
  - c. In the absence of an email address for the accused, a team official will be the player's representative until advised otherwise.
4. The League, through the Discipline Code or at the request of the Committee Chair, may identify infractions where attendance at a Discipline Hearing is not optional for the accused or team representative.
  5. In situations where a game has been abandoned, both teams will be requested to attend the discipline hearing. Failure to attend the hearing by either team will result in their team waiving their right to appeal the decision.
  6. Game officials, referee and/or assistant referees, may be invited to a hearing, at the discretion of the Committee.
  7. Documentation associated with the misconduct shall be provided in advance of the hearing.
    - a. Documents, at a minimum, will include the Discipline Report and the Discipline Code and other documents the Committee is expected to hear. (to align with ASA policy)
  8. A Discipline Committee shall have three (3) members.
    - a. One (1) will act as Chairman.
    - b. One (1) of the Committee shall act as recording secretary or a non-voting secretary will be provided by the League.
    - c. If the Committee, through introductions, determines a conflict of interest or bias, the panel can be reduced to two (2) members if agreed to in writing by the accused, or adjourned and re-scheduled according to the required timelines.
  9. The Discipline Hearing Committee members will be provided the name, club/team of the accused in advance of the hearing so that conflict of interest or bias can be determined.
  10. The Committee members will be introduced to the accused at the beginning of the hearing, providing soccer affiliations and general backgrounds, to allow the accused the opportunity to record any objection to the Committee members before the hearing begins.
  11. The accused or their representative can be given the option to provide written consent to waive any of the rules listed above.
    - a. The consent must be signed and dated by the accused or their representative and a member of the Discipline Committee or CUSA representative.
  12. The decision of the Discipline Committee will generally be available verbally the next working day and will be sent to the accused no later than ten (10) working days after the hearing.
  13. Notification will be provided to:
    - a. The participant, or representative, and their team official for Player Discipline.
    - b. The Primary Contact/Team Owner for Team Discipline

### **Process of a Discipline Committee Hearing**

1. Hearings are generally set in 15 - 20-minute intervals.
2. Committee members review related documents such as misconduct reports, game sheets and any other submitted information, including, at their discretion, any recording, or photographs of the incident. At the discretion of the Discipline Committee, the Discipline Committee may accept and review any written submission provided by any party who is the subject of a disciplinary hearing; however, the acceptance

of any written submission by the Discipline Committee shall in no way provide an avenue for appeal unless the party subject to the disciplinary hearing attends such hearing.

3. The participants are called into the Hearing Room.
4. Committee members are introduced along with their affiliations.
5. When a Discipline Committee is comprised of two (2) or fewer members, the player or team representative shall note on the Notice of Discipline their acceptance of the Committee. If the player or team representative requests a committee of at least three (3) members, the hearing shall be postponed until such time as three (3) members can be present.
6. The misconduct report is read aloud.
7. The participants are asked to present their information. After questions have been asked and answered, the participants will be excused.
8. Committee members deliberate, determining the outcome of the disciplinary action.
9. The re-scheduling of missed hearings is at the discretion of CUSA, and the decision will be final.

## **SCHEDULE B- Appeal Committee Hearings**

### **Guidelines**

1. The Appeal Committee is comprised of three (3) members. The Chair and the remaining two individuals are volunteers.
2. Appeals concerning the decision of the League Discipline Committee must be made in writing, to the Board of Directors within ten (10) consecutive days from receipt of notification of the decision rendered. Receipt for this clause shall be defined as three (3) business days from date posted by regular mail or two (2) business days by registered mail or immediate if sent by email.
  - a. Letters received without the required fee, \$150.00, will not be considered as letters of appeal until the appeal fee is received.
  - b. If the fee is received outside the specified timelines for appeals, the appeal will not be accepted.
3. During the appeal process, the decision made by the Discipline Committee will stand, pending the appeal.
4. Each Individual or Team must independently submit an appeal.
5. Upon receipt of the letter of appeal, the Appeal Committee Chairman will review the information to determine if there are grounds for appeal.
6. Leave for Appeal shall be granted if the following condition is met according to the Appeal Committee Chairman.
  - a. The acceptable grounds for appeal from a CUSA Discipline Committee decision would be:
    - i. not following the guidelines for discipline outcomes (Rules & Regulations, Discipline Code),
    - ii. not following the procedures as mandated by ASA for Affiliate Members (Appendix A of ASA Governance Policy on Discipline & Appeals),
    - iii. Discipline Committee was biased or influenced by bias.
  - b. Leave for appeal would not be granted to challenge the results of a hearing or because of ignorance of CUSA Rules and Regulations or the Discipline Code.
7. Representation for a participant at an Appeal Hearing shall be restricted to the appellant and/or individuals attending the original Discipline Committee Hearing.
8. Representation for a Team or Club at an Appeal Hearing shall be restricted to those participants at the Discipline Committee Hearing.
9. Participants may bring independent witnesses to their Appeal Hearing, who will be heard at the discretion of the Committee.

10. Game officials, referee and/or assistant referees, may be invited to an Appeal Hearing, at the discretion of the Committee.
11. The decision of the Appeal Committee will generally be sent to the accused no later than ten (10) working days after the hearing.
14. Notification of the decision will be provided to:
  - a. The participant, or representative, and their team official for Player Discipline.
  - b. The Primary Contact/Team Owner for Team Discipline
12. For the appeal fee to be reimbursed, the appeal must be successful in its entirety.
  - a. The League will retain an administrative fee of \$50.00 per appeal filed.

### **Process of an Appeal Hearing**

1. Committee members review related documents such as misconduct reports, game sheets and any other submitted information, including, at their discretion, any recording, or photographs of the incident.
2. Representation from the Discipline Committee will be required at an Appeal Hearing to present the determination of the Committee in the Discipline Hearing. They will be excused from decision making at the Appeal Hearing.
3. The participants are called into the Hearing Room.
4. The participants are asked to present their information. After questions have been asked and answered, the participants will be excused.
5. Committee members deliberate, determining the outcome of the appeal.

### **FURTHER APPEALS**

Appeals from a decision of the CUSA Appeals Committee or Board are to Alberta Soccer Association. See their Guidelines for further instructions.