



## DISCIPLINE POLICY

### 1.0 Overview:

The Langley United Soccer Association's Discipline Policy is meant to inform and educate all members of the club on the specific rules and guidelines related to discipline and the resolution of disciplinary incidents.

Langley United Soccer Association follows a strict set of Discipline Sanction Policies and Procedures set out by the BC Soccer Association. It is the responsibility of every BCSA member to educate themselves on the BCSA rules regarding discipline and appeals. This information can be found on the BCSA website at: <https://www.bcsoccer.net/bylaws>

### 2.0 Disciplinary Committee:

The LUSA Discipline Committee is composed of both volunteers and staff. All committee members have completed the "RESPECT IN SPORTS" Program and are fully qualified to oversee the Disciplinary Committee process. The LUSA Director of Risk Management will chair all Disciplinary Committee's, other than in cases where a conflict of interest may exist. In such cases the LUSA President will chair the Disciplinary Committee.

The LUSA Disciplinary Committee reserves the right to forgo a hearing and forward any reported incident to BCSA and/or the respective District or League.

Be aware that most District and Provincial leagues have their own discipline procedures. We recommend that coaches and team officials familiarize themselves with their respective processes. Langley United Soccer Association does provide support at the hearing stage and we will do our best to answer any questions that may arise at the team level.

### 3.0 Yellow/Red Cards:

**Yellow** – Two yellow cards in the same game is an automatic dismissal (red card). Three yellow cards in the same playing season result in a 1 game suspension. Five yellow cards in the same playing season result in a 2 game suspension.

**Red** – If a player is shown a red card but has not received any notification of suspension, they are allowed to play until notified otherwise. Referees have up to five days to submit a report, and the club has 30 days to act, so please do NOT assume that the suspension automatically takes place the following game.



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### **4.0 Discipline by Review:**

Less serious charges as per the BCSA Discipline Sanction Policies, is found either guilty or not guilty and there is NO APPEAL once the decision is rendered.

### **5.0 Discipline by Hearing:**

More serious charges as per BCSA Discipline Sanction Policies. The player charged is requested to attend a hearing before a panel of three LUSA Discipline Committee members. A hearing date will be set within the time lines under the process required by the BCSA. The Panel will render a decision resulting in either guilty (could result in ban from ALL soccer related activity), or not guilty. Appeals are allowed after a hearing, but are made to the BCSA.

### **6.0 Special Incidents:**

Reports filed as a result of incidents that take place on or off the field that are outside of the standard 'laws of the game' guidelines. Incidents include: verbal abuse by team officials, spectator behavior, weather issues etc. These incidents will be forwarded to the Director of Risk Management who will determine if a hearing will be held.

*Special Note:* Any team official who for whatever reason during a game pulls his/her team off the field will be subject to disciplinary action depending on the Discipline Committee findings. Teams will be held responsible if a game is abandoned because of the actions of its players, officials or spectators and will be subject to a disciplinary hearing. If the team is found guilty it shall forfeit the game and will be fined as per findings of the Discipline Committee. Forfeits will be recorded as 1:0 loss by default

### **7.0 Appeals Process:**

For discipline cases which fall under the Discipline Sanction Policy of the BCSA, the accused has the right to request that his/her case be dealt with under the Discipline by Hearing system should they believe the dismissal was unwarranted. This request for a hearing must be received within 72 hours of receiving the dismissal and must be accompanied by the request for hearing fee of \$50.00.

Langley United Soccer Association will only deal with discipline complaints filed in writing and signed. Anonymous complaints will not be considered. Remember that you are appealing the dismissal, and there is no appeal once the decision has been rendered. The \$50.00 fee is refundable only if the appeal is successful.

*Note: you cannot appeal two yellow cards that resulted in a red card.*



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### 8.0 Protests:

Game protests based upon the referee's interpretation of the 'laws of the game' will not be considered. Referee decisions are final and cannot be overturned. Protests can only be made on the basis that rules of the Langley United Soccer Association or BC Soccer Association have been broken.

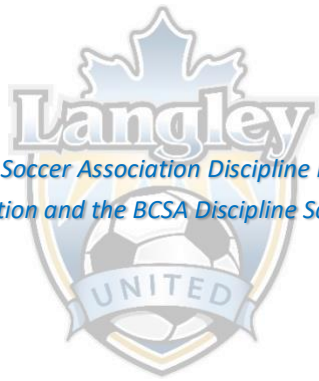
Protests must be submitted in writing and accompanied by a fee of \$100.00 which is refundable in the event that the protest is successful.

### 10.0 RESPECT Process:

Langley United Soccer Association's RESPECT Program is based on the idea that RESPECT is the collective responsibility of everyone in soccer to create a fair, safe, and enjoyable environment in which the game can take place. This not only includes players, but also parents, coaches, referees, spectators and everyone else involved in Soccer. The LUSA RESPECT Program can be found at:

<http://luysa.com/content/respectprogram>

The LUSA RESPECT Program informs all aspects of the LUSA Discipline Policy.



*Whenever unclear or uncertain the Langley United Soccer Association Discipline Policies are ultimately informed and educated by BC Soccer Association and the BCSA Discipline Sanction policies.*