

## **Breach of The Code of Conduct:**

*September 2023 MHSA*



*MHSA Jurisdiction comes from: Canada Soccer Disciplinary Code*

*“Member Associations shall also have the power to deal with violations of the Laws of the Game, Canada Soccer Rules and Regulations and policies, or misconduct by any of their Clubs or Associations, or by any of their players, Officials, or members.*

*All alleged offenses, other than those involving alleged physical assault, attempted physical assault, or threatening behavior or alleged physical contact with Match Officials or attempted physical contact with Match Officials, may be dealt with by the Member Association’s District Association or League in whose jurisdiction the alleged offence took place.”*

*Member Associations and League Members shall ensure that their disciplinary rules, regulations, and procedures are consistent with those of Canada Soccer and any discipline hearing shall be conducted in accordance with these rules and regulations.”*

**Infringements are punishable regardless of whether they have been committed deliberately or negligently and regardless of whether one is the instigator or an accomplice.**

In all cases, the parties concerned shall have the right to make and submit written statements.

The Disciplinary Committee shall consist of three (3) members, one of which shall serve as Chair of the Committee.

The Discipline Committee may initiate an investigation based on a filed complaint which may include collecting written information, requesting documents, and obtaining witness statements.

Decisions may be communicated by electronic mail or by letter.

### **Misconduct:**

Any act or statement, verbally or in writing, which is considered to be offensive, insulting, or improper behaviour or is likely to bring the game into disrepute.

Sanctions Common to all persons are punishable by each, or a combination of, the following sanctions at the discretion of the Disciplinary Committee hearing the case:

#### 1. Warning:

a. A warning is a reminder of the substance of a disciplinary rule allied with the threat of a sanction in the event of a further infringement.

#### 2. Reprimand:

a. A reprimand is an official written pronouncement of disapproval sent to the perpetrator of an infringement.

3. Suspension:

a. Disciplinary Committee may impose a suspension, in addition to the mandatory minimum suspension outlined in Table A, for a specific number of games, length of time or from all soccer related activity based on the weight of evidence presented in the case.

Contents of this Table are the responsibility MHSAA Disciplinary Committee and may be amended at any time.

TABLE A

Breaching a Code of Conduct and Ethics	Definition	Minimum	
Offensive Behaviour & Fair Play	Anyone who insults someone in any way, especially using offensive gestures or language, or who violates the principles of fair play	Suspended from all soccer related activities for thirty (30) days	
Discrimination/Harassment (player or Official) Field/Administrative	See MHSAA Harassment, Abuse & Bullying Policy.	suspended from all soccer related activities for forty-five (45) days; where appropriate removal from a position of authority.	
Discrimination/Harassment (spectators) Field/Administrative	Anyone who insults someone in any way, especially using offensive gestures or language, or who violates the principles of fair play	Stadium/field ban of at least one year.	
Threats (intimidation of a Match Official)	Anyone who threatens or intimidates or attempts to intimidate a match official before, during or after a game in any way (verbal, gesture or actions).	six (6) match suspension (Official) suspended from all soccer related activities for sixty (60) days; where appropriate removal from a position of authority.	

Improper conduct among spectators	violence towards persons uttering insulting words or sounds, throwing items, game disruption.	Stadium/field ban of at least one year.	
Offensive, abusive, insulting or derogatory language toward a minor player by any adult attending a match or practise. Bullying	Anyone who insults minor in any way, especially using offensive gestures or language, or who violates the principles of fair play or displays bullying behaviour.	2 year ban.	

Confidentiality: Members of the Disciplinary Committee shall ensure that everything disclosed to them during the course of their work, including but not limited to the facts of the case, the content of their deliberations, and the decisions taken, remain confidential.