



WSSL POLICY ON MISCONDUCT SUSPENSIONS

It is common practice in football the world over to discourage misconduct by players and team officials. The most common approach is to suspend players and team officials for misconduct that is considered excessive. Sendoffs (red cards) are punished with suspensions. Cautions (yellow cards), if accumulated, can also result in suspensions. Behavior that is egregious can result in additional sanctions, to be determined by a Board-level disciplinary committee. That committee does not reduce suspensions given according to the situations described below.

Cautions and sendoffs of players in younger divisions can result in discipline even if a card is not shown.

Divisions 6U through 12U: Referees can punish misconduct but do not typically show cards at these ages. Division heads can bring cases of extreme misbehavior (or no-card sendoffs) to the Board.

Divisions 13U and 14U: Any sendoff results in a one-game suspension. Receiving cautions in three games in a season results in a one-game suspension. Accumulation resets after any suspension.

Divisions 19U: Receiving cautions in three games in a season results in a one-game suspension. Accumulation resets after any suspension. Sendoff for a second caution or a non-violent (not Serious Foul Play, Violent Conduct or Spitting) sendoff results in a one-game suspension. Violent sendoffs result in a two-game suspension.

Division heads can refer any player suspension to the Board or disciplinary committee to recommend additional sanctions.

Coaches and team officials: Sendoff results in a one-game suspension. Receiving a caution in two games results in a one-game suspension. All coach suspensions are reviewed at the Board level (direct or disciplinary committee) to decide if additional sanctions are required, but suspensions cannot be reduced.

One-game suspensions apply to the next actually played game. Two-game suspensions apply to the next two scheduled games, played or not.

The division head must inform the player being disciplined and their parents, as well the head coach of the team. For coach suspensions, the division head must inform the head coach, co-coaches, and assistant coaches of that coach's team.

If a division head is the individual being disciplined, then review of the behavior will be solely conducted at the Board/disciplinary committee level.

Vilda Vera Mayuga
Commissioner
West Side Soccer League, wssl.org