



Football CQ

DISCIPLINARY POLICY

2017

FOOTBALL CQ
DISCIPLINARY POLICY 2017

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PART A – GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Objectives and application of the Regulations

1.1 These Regulations form part of the Football CQ Policies and Procedures and, among other things, apply to offences committed by any participant during a Football CQ sanctioned match.

1.2 These Regulations are designed to ensure that appropriate standards of behaviour are upheld on the field of play in a consistent manner across Football CQ sanctioned matches and in interpreting and applying these Regulations that objective is to be given effect.

1.3 The Regulations:

- apply to Football CQ, Clubs, Players, Team Officials and Spectators;
- apply to all Football CQ sanctioned matches;
- continue to apply to a Club or a Participant even after that Club's or Participant's association, registration, employment or engagement has ended, if that Club or Participant breached these Regulations while a current Participant;
- form part of the Football CQ Policies and Procedures; and;
- do not limit or restrict the application of FIFA Statutes, FFA Statutes, or Football CQ Policies and Procedures, in particular, the Code of Conduct for conduct or behaviour of a Player or Team Official or Spectator that occurs outside of the authority of these Regulations generally.

1.4 This policy is to be read in conjunction with the National Disciplinary Regulations (NDR)

2. Laws Of The Game

2.1 The Laws of the Game as drafted by the International Football Association Board and as adopted in FIFA Statutes govern the conduct of Football CQ sanctioned matches.

2.2 During a Football CQ sanctioned match, a Referee may take the following disciplinary action:

- (a) in the case of a Player, issue a Yellow Card in accordance with the Laws of the Game;
- (b) in the case of a Player, issue a Red Card in accordance with the Laws of the Game, and/or;
- (c) in the case of a Team Official, direct the expulsion from the field of play, its surrounds and the Technical Area.

2.3 These Regulations contain a table of offences at Annexure A. The table of offences details charges that can be initiated in accordance with these Regulations against a Player for Red Card offences or a Team Official for Expulsion offences.

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2.4 After a Football CQ sanctioned match, a Referee must submit to Football CQ a Referee's Report recording any disciplinary action taken in accordance with clause 2.2. The Referee and other Match Officials should also, and particularly when requested by Football CQ, submit to Football CQ an incident report with details of the incident giving rise to the disciplinary action, or any other incident that may occurred before, during or after a Football CQ sanctioned match.

3. Authorities and Jurisdiction

3.1 The Referee:

- controls each match and has authority to enforce the Laws of the Game in each Football CQ sanctioned match to which he or she has been appointed;
- makes all disciplinary decisions during a Match;
- has the powers, duties and authority:
 - a) as specified in the Laws of the Game and, in particular, Law 5; and
 - b) to make disciplinary decisions from the moment he or she enters the field of play until he or she leaves the field of play after the final whistle.

3.2 Football CQ:

- administers the Competition;
- may exercise any of the powers granted to it under these Regulations;
- must convene the Disciplinary Committee and the Appeal Committee to make determinations as required under these Regulations;
- will appoint a Disciplinary Coordinator to operate in accordance with these Regulations;
- must give effect to the penalties applied pursuant to these Regulations;
- may appoint an Investigations Officer to operate in accordance with these Regulations. The Investigations Officer shall liaise with the appropriate Competition Manager(s) as is relevant to the matter being investigated.

3.3 The Disciplinary Committee:

- must determine matters that have been referred to it and impose such penalties as are authorised and appropriate to the determination arising from matches as specified and in accordance with these Regulations and the FFA Statutes.

3.4 The Appeal Committee

- has jurisdiction to hear appeals from the Disciplinary Committee and appeals pursuant to clause 21.2 and must determine appeals, including imposition of any penalty, in accordance with these Regulations and the FFA Statutes.

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3.5 The Discipline Co-ordinator:

- applies the table of offences and proposes penalties;
- refers matters to the Disciplinary Committee arising from matches as specified and in accordance with these Regulations and the FFA Statutes.

4. Constitution Of Bodies

4.1 Disciplinary Co-ordinator

- The Disciplinary Co-ordinator will be appointed from time to time by the Zone

4.2 Disciplinary Committee

- Football CQ from time to time will appoint a Chair, a Deputy Chair and the number of members deemed necessary for the proper functioning of the Disciplinary Committee.
- The Disciplinary Committee has jurisdiction to determine matters referable to it pursuant to these Regulations.
 - (a) Appeals against Additional Penalty as imposed by Disciplinary Co-Ordinator
 - (b) R2 Grade 4 send offs
 - (c) R3 Grade 2 send offs
 - (d) Other send offs as it deems appropriate
 - (e) Incident reports
 - (f) Breaches of the Code of conduct
 - (g) Misconduct reports/complaints
- In a hearing, the Disciplinary Committee must consist of three (3) persons (including a Chair). At hearings involving players in Gladstone competitions, where possible at least one Committee member is to be from Gladstone.
- Each Disciplinary Committee member has and must exercise a single vote; all decisions of the Disciplinary Committee shall be made by majority vote.

4.3 Appeal Committee

- Football CQ from time to time will appoint a Chairman, a Deputy Chairman and the number of members deemed necessary for the proper functioning of the Appeal Committee.
- The Appeal Committee has jurisdiction to determine appeals from Determinations of the Disciplinary Committee in accordance with these Regulations and appeals by Clubs in the case of penalties issued by Football CQ for Team Misconduct.
- In a hearing, the Appeal Committee must consist of three (3) persons.

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- Each member of the Appeal Committee has and must exercise a single vote and all decisions of the Appeal Committee will be made by majority vote.

PART B – INFRINGEMENTS

5. Yellow Cards

A Yellow Card is issued by a Referee to a Player for the commission of cautionable offences specified at Law 12 of the Laws of the Game:

(a) A player is cautioned and shown the yellow card for any of the following seven offences:

- is guilty of unsporting behaviour.
- shows dissent by word or action.
- persistently infringes the Laws of the Game.
- delays the restart of play.
- fails to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free kick or throw-in.
- enters or re-enters the field of play without the referee's permission.
- deliberately leaves the field of play without the referee's permission.

(b) Referees must clearly indicate the offence code on the team-sheet before submitting to club officials for a final sign off.

(c) If a referee omits to show the appropriate card when taking action against a player, this does not nullify the offence.

5.1 Players who accumulate **Five (5) Yellow Cards** during the course of Football CQ sanctioned matches must serve one mandatory match suspension.

5.2 Further to clause 5.1;

- A player who accumulates **eight (8) Yellow Cards** during the regular season equates to a two (2) match suspension.
- For every **three Yellow Cards thereafter**, a two (2) match suspension (i.e. two (2) match suspension for 11 Yellow Cards, etc.)
- A player who accumulates **three (3) Yellow Cards** during the course of the **Finals Series**, must serve a mandatory one (1) match suspension.

5.3 If a Player receives two Yellow Cards during the same Football CQ sanctioned match and therefore receives a Red Card (constituting an R7 Sanction as listed under Section 6 below), the two Yellow Cards **do not** count for the purposes of accumulation.

5.4 If a Player receives a Yellow Card and then a direct Red Card in the same match, the Yellow Card **will** count in the Player's accumulation of Yellow Cards.

5.5 The accumulation of Yellow Cards will be reset to zero at the end of the last Football CQ sanctioned match of the Pre-Season, the Regular Season, and any Finals Series respectively. This means that Yellow Cards accumulated in the Pre-Season do not carry over to the Regular Season, Yellow Cards accumulated in the Regular Season do not carry over to any Finals Series and Yellow Cards accumulated in the Finals Series do not carry over to the next Pre-Season.

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5.6 Match suspensions incurred as a result of the accumulation of Yellow Cards in either the Pre-Season, Regular Season or Finals Series must be served in the next Football CQ sanctioned match in which the Club competes, whether that be in the Pre-Season, Regular Season or Finals Series.

5.7 Yellow cards issued in a Friendly Match do not accumulate toward future matches.

6. Red Cards

6.1 A Red Card is an order given by the Referee to a Player to leave the field of play, its surrounds and the Technical Area during a Football CQ sanctioned match.

6.2 A Red Card is issued by a Referee to a Player for the commission of sending-off offences specified at Law 12 of the Laws of the Game:

(a) A player, substitute or substituted player is sent off and shown the red card if they commit any of the following seven offences:

R1 is guilty of serious foul play

R2 is guilty of violent conduct

R3 spits at an opponent or any other person

R4 denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goalkeeper within his own penalty area)

R5 denies 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

R6 uses offensive or insulting or abusive language and/or gestures

R7 receives a second caution in the same match

The following standard suspensions shall apply for each offence:

OFFENCE	GRADE	MANDATORY MATCH SUSPENSION (non-appealable)	ADDITIONAL PENALTY (Appealable)	TOTAL (STANDARD) SUSPENSION
R1		1 Match	1 Match	2 Matches
R2	Grade 1	1 Match	1 Match	2 Matches
	Grade 2	2 Matches	2 Matches	4 Matches
	Grade 3	2 Matches	3 Matches + Review	5 Matches + Review
	Grade 4	2 Matches	+ Hearing	2 Matches + Hearing
R3	Grade 1	2 Matches	5 Matches	7 Matches
	Grade 2	2 Matches	+ Hearing	2 Matches + Hearing
R4		1 Match	Nil	1 Match
R5		1 Match	Nil	1 Match
R6	Grade 1	1 Match	1 Match	2 Matches
	Grade 2	2 Matches	4 Matches	6 Matches
	Grade 3	2 Matches	1 Match	3 Matches
	Grade 4	2 Matches	3 Matches	5 Matches
R7		1 Match	Nil	1 Match

(See Attachment 1 for the Grading of Offences.)

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(b) A player, substitute or substituted player who has been sent off and shown the red card **must leave the vicinity of the field of play and technical area and return to the dressing room.**

(c) All players who are sent off and shown the red card receive **a mandatory match suspension**, which is **not appealable** except in the case of alleged obvious error (see Clause 11.2 of the NDR). They may be subject to an additional disciplinary penalty depending on the offence.

(d) Any player who uses offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures towards any match official(s) after being sent off will incur **at least an additional one (1) match suspension.**

(e) Any player who fails to leave the field of play and the technical area and not immediately return to the dressing room after being sent off will incur **at least an additional one (1) match suspension.**

6.3 A Red Card is regarded as indirect if it is the result of the accumulation of two (2) Yellow Cards in the same Football CQ sanctioned match and as direct in all other cases. Where a Player receives an indirect Red Card, he will serve a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) match.

6.4 Football CQ must specify that a Player who accumulates a certain number of Red Cards over the course of the competition must serve a mandatory match suspension.

6.5 Further to clause 6.4, unless otherwise specified in the competition rules, a Player who accumulates the following number of direct Red Cards during the Regular Season or Finals Series, must serve the following mandatory match suspension:

- 2nd direct Red Card, equates to a one (1) additional match suspension;
- 3rd occasion, equates to a two (2) additional matches suspension; and
- 4th occasion, equates to a three (3) additional matches suspension.

Note: these additional matches are mandatory and **cannot** be appealed.

6.6 Offences that result in the issue of Red Cards in sanctioned Friendly Matches will be treated like they would in any other sanctioned Football CQ match, be it pre-season or in season.

7. Offences By Team Officials

7.1 A Referee may expel a Team Official from the field of play, its surrounds and the Technical Area where the Official commits an offence listed in the table of offences.

7.2 A Team Official who has been so expelled from the field of play, its surrounds and the Technical Area by a Referee must serve a one (1) mandatory match suspension and is subject to an additional penalty in accordance with the table of offences.

7.3 A Team Official who makes comments or actions deemed to be detrimental to the integrity of Football Central Queensland and any competitions administered by FCQ;

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to be a violation of the FFA Code of Conduct; or to be bringing the game into disrepute; shall be liable for Sanction under this Disciplinary Policy, and subject to disciplinary action as deemed appropriate under this Policy.

8. Incident Reports

8.1 A referee or assistant referee shall submit an Incident Report in the following cases:

- An incident that occurred that is not covered by one of the above offences.
- Assault or harassment experienced during and/or after a match
- Any other matter as deemed necessary

8.2 The referee should lodge the written Incident Report as soon as possible after the event and Football Central Queensland shall refer all such reports to the Disciplinary Committee for consideration as required.

9. Team Misconduct

9.1 Each Club must ensure that its Participants do not engage in Team Misconduct.

9.2 Team Misconduct in relation to a Club is where:

- five (5) of its Participants are cautioned or expelled during a Football CQ sanctioned match;
- three (3) of its Participants are sent off or expelled during a Football CQ sanctioned match;
- its Participants collectively show dissent towards a Match Official or collectively seek to intimidate, threaten or exert pressure on a Match Official to make or alter a decision; or
- its Participants engage in a melee or brawl.

9.3 Football CQ may impose a penalty on any Club whose Participants engage in Team Misconduct.

PART C - DISCIPLINARY PROCESSES

10. Review Of Football CQ Sanctioned Matches

10.1 At the conclusion of a round of Football CQ sanctioned matches, the Disciplinary Co-ordinator will:

- review all cases where a Player has received a direct Red Card for Red Card offences and cases where Team Officials have been expelled for Expulsion offences.
- review the Referees Report and any Match Official Reports that relate to the issuing of direct Red Cards and Expulsions.
- after conducting a review of each direct Red Card or Expulsion Offence, determine the Offence and apply the Range at the table of offences to the facts of the case to determine what penalty, if any, proposed to apply in addition to the Mandatory Match Suspension.
- advise the relevant Competition Manager regarding any penalties imposed.

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Note: The Mandatory Match Suspension that applies to a Participant under these Regulations as a consequence of the receipt of a Red Card or Expulsion, is effective regardless of whether or not the Disciplinary Coordinator notified the Participant of the Mandatory Match Suspension.

11 Football CQ Citations

Football CQ may issue to a Participant (through his or her Club) a Disciplinary Notice that:

- includes reasonable details of the alleged offence; and
- refers the matter to the Disciplinary Committee for hearing to determine what, if any, penalty should be imposed in accordance with these Regulations.

12 Investigations Officer

Football CQ may appoint an Investigations Officer to investigate an incident during a match involving a Participant that has escaped the Referee's attention.

13 Disciplinary Notices

13.1 A Disciplinary Notice issued to a Participant (through his or her Club) must contain the information specified in the clause pursuant to which the Disciplinary Notice has been issued.

13.2 Upon receipt of a Disciplinary Notice proposing a penalty (issued pursuant to clause 9.1), the Participant may elect to:

- accept the proposed penalty; or
- refer the matter to the Disciplinary Committee for Determination,

13.3 Such election to be communicated to Football CQ by 12.00 noon on the 7th day following the receipt of the Disciplinary Notice. Where such election is not made in accordance with the time limits imposed by these Regulations, time being of the essence, the Participant is deemed to have accepted the proposed penalty.

13.4 A person notifying or giving notice under these Regulations must notify in writing and in English. Disciplinary Notices to Participants are deemed to be received by the Participant if notified to the Participant's Club.

PART D - PENALTIES

14 Right To Penalty

14.1 A penalty outside of the range at the table of offences may be imposed by a Judicial Body only in exceptional circumstances that must be detailed in the determination – refer NDR

15 Nature And Form Of Penalties

15.1 Where a Judicial Body imposes a penalty involving a suspension from participating as either a Player or Team Official in matches (whether by reference to a number of matches or period of time), the penalty must:

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- impose a continuous suspension;
- not be structured in more than one (1) part or in any way that allows the Participant to serve the suspension in a fragmented way by participating in a certain match or matches (in whatever competition) and then resuming the suspension.
- In respect of penalties of less than 6 matches or 6 months, a Judicial Body may order that part of the match suspension:
 - comes into immediate effect; and
 - the other part does not come into effect unless and until an additional offence is committed during a specified probationary period (i.e. is suspended).

15.2 If a Judicial Body imposes a match suspension where part is suspended, the part of the penalty that comes into immediate effect must:

- include any match suspension corresponding to the minimum suspension contained in the table of offences: and
- be at least one half of the total penalty to be imposed.
- If a penalty is imposed in the form of a part that takes effect and a part that is suspended for a probationary period, the penalty must specify:
 - the types of offences which, if committed, activate the suspended part of the ban; and
 - the length of the probationary period which must be a period between 6 months and 24 months.

15.3 Where a Judicial Body imposes a match suspension where part is suspended, if the Participant within the specified probationary period commits an offence that triggers the suspended part; that suspended part is then to be served in addition to any penalty that is imposed for the new offence.

16 Fines

16.1 All fines imposed under these Regulations must be paid within 14 days of the date on which the fine is imposed unless otherwise agreed by Football CQ. A full list of fines is provided in the FCQ Fines & Misdemeanours Policy.

16.2 The Participant cannot take part in any match until a fine imposed on him/her under these Regulations is paid in full. This means that if a match suspension is combined with a fine, the suspension is prolonged until the fine is paid in full.

16.3 A fine cannot be issued against an Amateur.

16.4 A Club is solely liable for a fine imposed on one of its Participants in the event that Participant is an Amateur (even if that Participant subsequently leaves that Club).

17 Penalty for Team Misconduct

17.1 If Football CQ determines that the Participants of a Club have committed Team Misconduct, Football CQ may impose any of the penalties outlined in Part V of the FFA Statutes and the Football CQ Fines and Penalties Policy.

17.2 Any decision by Football CQ that a Club has committed Team Misconduct is final and not subject to appeal. The Club may appeal the severity of the penalty imposed by Football CQ to the Appeal Committee.

18 Serving A Suspension

18.1 The objective of this Regulation is that:

- Participants serve suspensions in the Football CQ official sanctioned matches, being the competition in which the offence was committed; (be it in the same Competition in which the suspension was incurred or another official sanctioned Competition in which the participant's team next participates).
- during the season, a player subject to a suspension may not play in other competitions and, depending on the severity of the offence, this may also apply to off-season tournaments;
- penalties operate so that the full quantum of the penalties imposed by applying the range at the table of offences is actually served in season;
- in relation to the serving of suspensions, the timing of when a penalty is imposed and the timing of the Football CQ sanctioned matches off-season should not produce a different result for Participants committing like offences.

Effect of suspension

18.2 While serving a suspension, a Participant may not:

- on the day a Football CQ sanctioned match is being conducted, enter the field of play, the surrounds of the field of play, the Technical Area, the players' race, the dressing rooms or any other place within a venue where Participants are likely to assemble to prepare for that match;
- if attending a Football CQ sanctioned match, be seated in a venue area normally reserved for Participants.

Eligibility

18.3 Subject to clause 13.4, a Player who is suspended may not play in any regulated Football match until he or she has served his or her suspension.

18.4 Provided that the suspension is not for more than six matches or two months, if the Football CQ sanctioned matches season concludes before the Player has completed their suspension, he or she may, subject to the competition rules governing those regulated football matches, play in other regulated football matches during the Football CQ off-season. He or she must complete his or her suspension in the Football CQ sanctioned matches at the commencement of the next FCQ season.

18.5 A Participant must serve his or her suspension in the next Football CQ sanctioned match(es) in which his or her team participates.

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18.6 Suspensions carry over from one round to the next in the Regular Season and from the Pre-Season to the Regular Season, from the Regular Season to the Finals Series and from the Regular Season or Finals Series (as applicable) to the following Pre-Season.

19 Extending a suspension to account for off-season

19.1 Where a suspension is to be imposed in terms of a period of time, and at the time of delivery of the penalty, some or all of the suspension would coincide with the off-season of FCQ sanctioned matches, the Disciplinary or Appeal Committee must:

- first determine what is the appropriate penalty to be served for the offence by applying the range at the table of offences; and
- then extend the length of the suspension by the period of the off-season that would otherwise coincide with the period of suspension.

19.2 By way of illustration assuming the Football CQ sanctioned matches season concludes on 1 October and the next season commences on 1 April and a Judicial Body, applying the range at the table of offences, determines a three month suspension is warranted it would:

- if delivering the penalty on 1 April, impose a three month penalty concluding on 1 July;
- if delivering the penalty on 1 October, impose a nine month suspension concluding on 1 July;

19.3 Where the Discipline Co-ordinator determines, in their absolute discretion, that a Participant committed two or more offences during the same match, the Discipline Coordinator may, in their absolute discretion, direct the Participant's suspension as a consequence of the commission of the offences be served concurrently. In the absence of any such direction, all suspensions are to be served consecutively.

20 Friendly Matches

20.1 A Participant who receives:

- a mandatory match suspension in a Friendly, must serve that suspension in the next Friendly;
- a match suspension in addition to a mandatory match suspension for an offence that occurs in a Friendly, may be required by a Judicial Body to serve the suspension in the next Football CQ match in which his or her Club participates (rather than the next Friendly)

21 Effect Of Abandoned Matches

21.1 A suspension is to be served in terms of matches, only those matches actually played count towards the execution of the suspension. If a Football CQ sanctioned match is abandoned after its commencement, due to an on field incident, a suspension is only considered to be served if the Club to which the suspended Player belongs is not responsible for the facts that led to the abandonment, cancellation or forfeiture of the match in question.

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21.2 A Yellow Card issued during a Football CQ sanctioned match abandoned after its commencement will be annulled if that Football CQ sanctioned match is replayed and upheld if that match is not replayed.

21.3 A direct Red Card issued during a Football CQ sanctioned match abandoned after its commencement will be upheld, regardless of whether the match is replayed or not (so a player sent off in a game which is abandoned, must serve the relevant suspension for his or her offence, regardless of the game being abandoned).

PART E - ADMINISTRATIVE AND HEARING PROCEDURES

22 Procedures

22.1 Administration of the Football CQ sanctioned matches Disciplinary system will be as per the NDR.

22.2 Hearings are not bound by the rules of evidence usually applicable to proceedings in courts of law, but all hearings must be conducted in accordance with the principles of natural justice, including that the Participant or, in the case of an appeal pursuant to clause 23.2, a Club:

- is treated with equality;
- receives advance notice of the hearing; and
- has the opportunity to be heard and to make submissions in relation to the issues of, where applicable, merit and/or penalty.

22.3 Hearings should commence no later than the tenth (10th) day after the offence and as soon as practicable for

- (a) Incident reports
- (e) Breaches of the Code of conduct
- (f) Misconduct reports/complaints

22.4 Any party summoned to appear before the Disciplinary Committee shall receive at least two (2) working days notification prior to the hearing

A party may attend in person or by phone. This should be advised to the Committee before the commencement of the hearing.

If there is a valid reason for not attending, a party can request by writing to Football CQ a postponement of a maximum of one (1) week.

Any party may request that they would like the charge(s) to be determined by the Disciplinary committee in their absence. In this situation, the party must present their plea (guilty or not guilty) and detail their defence to the charge (if pleading not guilty)

Persons entitled to appear before a Disciplinary Committee Hearing shall be:

- i. Summoned party accompanied by a Club Representative
- ii. Player's Parent or Guardian (Junior Players)
- iii. Summoned party's witness
- iv. Appointed Match Official(s) accompanied by a Referee's Representative
- v. Legal representation in line with Football CQ's Procedures (see below)

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22.5 Facts contained in a Referee's Report are prima facie evidence of the contents of the Referee's Report.

22.6 If a matter has the potential to become complex or lengthy, a Judicial Body may order a directions hearing for the purpose of setting a timetable for the submission of evidence by the Participant or in the case of an appeal pursuant to clause 23.2, a Club. If a person fails to comply with the timetable as determined by the directions hearing without showing sufficient cause, a Judicial Body may continue the proceedings and make a determination on the evidence before it.

22.7 A Judicial Body has the right to determine all procedures to be adopted at a hearing and may during the course of any hearing:

- grant or order an adjournment to provide the Participant or the Disciplinary Counsel or in the case of an appeal, a Club with additional time or to consider additional evidence;
- admit or request the production of documents or any relevant written evidence available to a Participant or Club or any other person, including reports from Match Officials, declarations from the Participant or the Disciplinary Counsel or in the case of an appeal, a Club and witnesses, expert opinion and video or audio recordings; or
- order the attendance of any person for the purpose of asking questions relevant to the hearing.

22.8 To initiate a Disciplinary Hearing, a Participant or Club must:

- Complete the Disciplinary Hearing Application form (Appendix 1) and forward to Football CQ within 7 days of the date on which the written Suspension Notice or Formal Advice from Football CQ was received ; and
- pay to Football CQ an appeal fee of \$200.
- Should a Participant or Club wish to include legal representatives in the Appeals Process, an additional lodgement fee of \$500 must be paid to Football CQ.

23 Determinations And Deliberations

Deliberations

23.1 If a Participant fails to attend a hearing without showing sufficient cause for such failure, the hearing can be heard and determined in the Participant's absence, including as to determination on the merits and/or penalty.

23.2 A Judicial Body must determine all hearings by reference to:

- these Policies and Procedures , FFA Statutes, FIFA Statutes and other relevant rules and regulations;
- considerations of general justice and fairness; and
- applicable law.

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Determinations

23.3 A Determination must:

- contain the names of the members of the Judicial Body;
- be made in writing;
- in the shortest form reasonably practicable, provide the reasons on which the Determination is based;
- contain the terms of the decision;
- in the case of the Disciplinary Committee, be signed by the Chair;
- in the case of the Appeal Committee, be signed by the President;
- contain the date on which, and the place where, the Determination was made; and
- be promptly provided to the Administrator so that it may be forwarded to the Participant.

23.4 A Judicial Body may verbally announce the determination at the end of the hearing, but must provide written reasons for the determination in accordance with the above.

23.5 All Determinations of a Disciplinary Committee remain in force unless reversed by the Appeal Committee.

23.6 Subject only to the right of appeal to the Appeal Committee a Determination of the Disciplinary Committee is final and binding and no person may institute or maintain proceedings in any court of law or tribunal.

Compliance with Determinations

23.7 A failure to comply with a Determination within the manner or time as prescribed by that Determination is itself a breach of the FFA Statutes and the non-compliant person is subject to further penalty.

Correction of a Determination

23.8 Within 30 days of receipt of a Determination, Football CQ itself or a Club or Participant with written notice to FFA, may request the Judicial Body to correct in the Determination any errors in computation, any clerical or typographical errors or any other error of a similar nature. If the Judicial Body considers the request to be justified, it will make the correction.

23.9 Within 30 days after communication of the Determination, a Judicial Body may of its own initiative correct in the Determination any errors in computation, any clerical or typographical errors or any other error of a similar nature.

23.10 Any corrections must be in writing and communicated to the Administrator.

PART F - APPEALS

24 Right of Appeal

24.1 A Participant has a right to appeal a Determination of the Disciplinary Committee.

24.2 A Club has a right to appeal a penalty imposed by Football CQ for Team Misconduct.

24.3 To initiate an appeal, a Participant or Club must:

- Complete the Disciplinary Appeal Application form (Appendix 2) and forward to Football CQ within 7 days of the date on which the written Determination or notice from Football CQ was received ; and
- pay to Football CQ an appeal fee of \$500.
- Should a Participant or Club wish to include legal representatives in the Appeals Process, an additional lodgement fee of \$250 must be paid to Football CQ, along with the \$500 appeal fee.

24.4 A hearing will not be convened unless the applicable fees have been received by Football CQ.

A Hearing is to be held within 7 days of Football CQ receiving the Appeal Application or the Appeal Fee (whichever is the latter).

25 Grounds of Appeal

25.1 The sole grounds of appeal are those specified at Part V of the FFA Statutes and are:

- the Participant or, in respect of an appeal under clause 24.2, the Club, was not afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard on the issues;
- the determination was affected by bias; and
- the decision was one that was not reasonably open to the Disciplinary Committee, having regard to the evidence before the Disciplinary Committee.

25.2 The Appeal Committee has the power to:

- dismiss, allow in whole or part, or vary (whether by way of reduction or increase) any Determination of the Disciplinary Committee or decision of FFA;
- substitute its own penalties or finding; or
- impose any penalty or make any finding that the Disciplinary Committee or FFA could have imposed or made, in accordance with these Regulations.

25.3 If the appellant is completely successful in its appeal, the Football CQ must refund to the appellant all relevant appeal and lodgement fees.

26 No Recourse To Courts

The determination of the Appeal Committee shall be final and binding on the parties to the appeal and no person may institute or maintain proceedings in any court of law or tribunal as stipulated in the FFA National Disciplinary Regulations.

27 Miscellaneous

- A Judicial Body must apply the law as applicable in Queensland.
- Members of Judicial Bodies, Disciplinary Co-Ordinator, including the Administrator (***Immune Persons***) shall be immune from suit and no person may institute or maintain any proceedings or bring any claim in respect of any act or omission on the part of an Immune Person or any decisions made by an Immune Person except in the event of fraud.
- No proceedings before or determination of a Judicial Body or Discipline Co-ordinator or Football CQ will be invalidated for any defect whether of substance or of form in any notice or report or by reason of non-compliance with any term of these Regulations.
- A notice will be taken to have been received:
 - if delivered by hand to the recipient's address, on the date of delivery, as long as delivery is acknowledged in writing by the recipient;
 - if sent by post, 3 days after the posting; and
 - if sent by email or facsimile on a working day at the recipient's, on the date of transmission, or if sent on a non-working day at the recipient's, on the next working day (in both cases as long as the sender's email or facsimile machine records a successful transmission).

DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS

In these Regulations:

Administrator means the Football CQ person appointed to discharge the duties contained within these Regulations.

Football CQ sanctioned match means a match in a Football CQ competition.

Amateur means a player who is not a Professional and who is only reimbursed his expenses incurred for participating in football.

Appeal Committee means the committee convened by Football CQ from time to time in accordance with these policies and procedures.

Club means the entity admitted by Football CQ to field a team in the Football CQ sanctioned matches.

Code of Conduct means the Code of Conduct as promulgated by FFA from time to time.

Deputy Chair means the person so appointed by Football CQ from time to time to appear on the Disciplinary Committee in place of the Chair.

Deputy President means the person appointed by Football CQ from time to time to appear on the Appeal Committee in place of the President.

Determination means a determination or decision made by the Judicial Bodies.

Disciplinary Committee means the committee convened by Football CQ from time to time in accordance with its policies and procedures.

Disciplinary Notice means the notice provided to the Participant.

Exceptional Circumstances means circumstances operating at the time of the Offence and relating to the commission of the Offence and not to the impact a penalty may have. The following are not Exceptional Circumstances:

- (a) the significance or importance to the Participant or his Club of the Football CQ sanctioned match in which the Offence was committed;
- (b) the significance or importance of any match or tournament in which the Participant will be ineligible to participate because of the imposition of a penalty within the Range at the Table of Offences;
- (c) the point in the Football CQ sanctioned match at which the Offence was committed;
- (d) the conduct, including actions, words or gestures of any Player or Team Official of the opposing team during or related to the Football CQ sanctioned match; and
- (e) any disciplinary decision taken or failure to take a disciplinary decision by a Match Official during the Football CQ sanctioned match.

Expulsion Offence means an offence specified in the Table of Offences committed by a Team Official warranting or leading to his or her Expulsion.

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FFA means Football Federation Australia.

FFA Statutes means FFA's statutes as promulgated by FFA from time to time, including its constitution and by-laws and rules and regulations and policies and procedures.

FIFA means the association responsible for the organisation, administration and promotion of football throughout the world.

FIFA Statutes means the statutes and accompanying standing orders and regulations promulgated by FIFA from time to time, including the FIFA Disciplinary Code, the FIFA Code of Ethics and the Regulations for the Status and Transfer of Players.

Finals Series means the semi-finals, preliminary final and grand final of the Football CQ sanctioned matches or any other configuration as determined by Football CQ from time to time.

Friendly Match means any match participated in by the Club with Football CQ prior written approval that is not a match in the Pre-Season, Regular Season or Finals Series.

Investigations Officer means the person appointed by Football CQ from time to time.

Judicial Body means the Disciplinary Committee and the Appeal Committee.

Laws of the Game means the official Laws of the Game as promulgated by FIFA from time to time.

Mandatory Match Suspension means the automatic suspension from participating in an Football CQ sanctioned match or Matches that must be served:

- (a) subject to the outcome of any Obvious Error (Red Card) Application, by a Player for the commission of a Red Card Offence;
- (b) by a Player for accumulation of Yellow Cards in accordance with clause 5;
- (c) by a Player for accumulation of Red Cards in accordance with clause 6; or
- (d) by a Team Official for the commission of an Expulsion Offence in accordance with clause 7.2.

Match Official means the Referee, the assistant referees, fourth official, match commissioner, Referee inspector appointed by Football CQ to assume responsibility in connection with and officiating on a Football CQ sanctioned match.

Match Official Report means a written document provided to Football CQ, the Discipline Co-ordinator or Judicial Bodies by a Match Official in accordance with policies and procedures.

Media means media professional presently accredited by FFA.

Offence means a Red Card Offence or an Expulsion Offence.

Participant means a Player or a Team Official.

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Player means any person who has been, is, or is eligible to be registered by Football CQ with a Club to play in the Football CQ sanctioned matches.

Pre-Season means any Pre-Season formal competition as nominated by Football CQ

President means the person appointed by Football CQ from time to time to serve as President of the Appeal Committee.

Range (at the Table of Offences) means, in relation to each Offence, the range bounded by the minimum penalty prescribed in the Table of Offences and the maximum prescribed at Annexure A.

Red Card has the meaning given to it at clause 6.2.

Red Card Offence means commission by a Player of one of the sending-off offences outlined at clause 6.2.

Referee means the appropriately qualified person engaged by Football CQ to enforce the Laws of the Game during a Football CQ sanctioned match.

Referee's Report means the report provided to Football CQ in a prescribed form by a Referee after a Football CQ Match.

Regular Season means the matches played between the Clubs during the Football CQ sanctioned matches Season to determine the Clubs that compete in the Finals Series, and includes all matches played in the Football CQ sanctioned matches Season that are not in the Pre-Season or the Finals Series.

Regulated Football Match means any eleven-a-side football match in a competition conducted under, and involving players who register with Football CQ under, the regulatory framework of FFA's National Registration Regulations.

Simulation means an act or attempt by a Participant to deceive the Referee by feigning injury or pretending to have been fouled.

Table of Offences means the various offences that can be committed by a Participant contained at Annexure A.

Team means the Club with which the Player is currently registered as a Player.

Team Misconduct has the meaning given to it in the policies and procedures.

Team Official means any person involved with the management, preparation or participation of a Club's team (whether paid or unpaid), including the coaches, managers, medical staff, physiotherapists, gear persons and other support staff or any other person accredited by Football CQ as an employee, contractor or volunteer at a Club.

Technical Area means the area marked and designated by Football CQ in accordance with the Laws of the Game within which the coach, the substitute Players and the Team Officials must remain during a Football CQ sanctioned match.

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Total Payments means the gross salary (including superannuation but not match bonuses) a Player is entitled to receive under his employment contract with the Club for the period corresponding to the period when he is subject to suspension.

Venue means the venue or stadium at which the Football CQ sanctioned match is being conducted.

Yellow Card means a caution of a Player by the Referee for an infringement outlined at clause 5.1.

In these Regulations -

- any terms used but not defined has the meaning given to it in the FFA Statutes;
- any use of the word 'includes' or words such as 'for example' or 'such as' do not limited anything else that is included in general speech;
- 'business day' means a day when the offices of Football CQ are open for business;
- all notices must be in writing and addressed to the address of the recipient;
- any reference to '\$' or 'dollars' is to Australian dollars.

These Regulations will be interpreted, varied and reviewed in accordance with Part IX of the FFA Statutes.

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ATTACHMENT 1 –

GRADING OF OFFENCES

- | | | |
|----|---------|---|
| R2 | Grade 1 | Pushing with no punches thrown |
| | Grade 2 | Striking, kicking, elbowing or head-butting (including attempting these offences) |
| | Grade 3 | Intends to cause significant bodily harm to any person, involvement in a brawl |
| | Grade 4 | Against a match official |
| R3 | Grade 1 | At a player or other person |
| | Grade 2 | At a match official |
| R6 | Grade 1 | Against a player or other person |
| | Grade 2 | Discriminatory language |
| | Grade 3 | Against a match official |
| | Grade 4 | Unsporting conduct toward a match official |

ASSAULTS ON MATCH OFFICIALS

Guidelines for Disciplinary Sanctions to be imposed for assaults on match officials.

CATEGORY 1 OFFENCE

Deliberately striking a match official by way of physical contact with any part of the body or the use of any object.

Sanction:

6 months to 10 years suspension from all facets of the game (for a Player or Team Official)

\$5000 fine on Club (for a Club Official or Club Supporter)

CATEGORY 2 OFFENCE

Attempting to strike a match official by way of physical contact with any part of the body or the use of any object.

Sanction:

6 months to 3 years suspension from all facets of the game (for a Player or Team Official)

\$1500 fine on Club (for a Club Official or Club Supporter)

CATEGORY 3 OFFENCE

Spitting at or on a match official.

Sanction:

12 months to 18 months suspension from all facets of the game (for a Player or Team Official).

\$1000 fine on Club (for a Club Official or Club Supporter)

CATEGORY 4 OFFENCE

Deliberate physical contact with a match official not covered in categories 1, 2 or 3.

Such conduct would include, but is not limited to, deliberately pushing a match official.

Sanction:

5 matches to 2 years suspension from all facets of the game (for a Player or Team Official)

\$500 fine on Club (for a Club Official or Club Supporter)

FOOTBALL CQ
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APPENDIX 1

Football Central Queensland
223 Campbell Street,
P O Box 157, Rockhampton 4700
Email: admin@footballcq.com.au

DISCIPLINARY HEARING APPLICATION

Please note all correspondence will be through the appellant's club executive

1. APPLICANT DETAILS:

Club Name: _____
Contact Name & Title: _____
Preferred Contact Phone No: _____
Email: _____

• DETAILS OF APPEAL:

Appellant's Name: _____
(player/official sanctioned)
Match: _____
Date of Match: _____
Sanction Imposed: _____

• GROUND FOR APPEAL:

Grounds for appeal must be provided. Please attached paperwork include player/witness statements

• TIMEFRAME AND COSTS

*This application must be lodged with Football Central Queensland as per Football Central Queensland Disciplinary Policy 23.3 (within 7 days of the date on which the written Determination or notice from Football CQ was received)
Applicant must also enclose Hearing fee of \$200 which may be refunded if the appeal is upheld. Applicants wishing to involve Legal Representatives in Disciplinary Hearings must also enclose a Lodgement fee of \$500.*

• SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

I warrant that the information contained in this Application Form is true and correct.

SIGNED: _____ DATE: _____ / _____ / _____

PRINT NAME: _____

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Hearing Request Received:	_____ / _____ /20
Date Hearing Fee Received:	_____ / _____ /20
Received Evidence from Appellant to be relied on during Appeal:	_____ / _____ /20
Notified of Appeal hearing and details:	_____ / _____ /20
Documentation Sent to Club:	_____ / _____ /20

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APPENDIX 2

Football Central Queensland
223 Campbell Street,
P O Box 157, Rockhampton 4700
Email: admin@footballcq.com.au

DISCIPLINARY APPEAL APPLICATION

Please note all correspondence will be through the appellant's club executive

• APPLICANT DETAILS:

Club Name: _____
Contact Name & Title: _____
Preferred Contact Phone No: _____
Email: _____

• DETAILS OF APPEAL:

Appellant's Name: _____
(player/official sanctioned)
Match: _____
Date of Match: _____
Sanction Imposed: _____

• GROUND FOR APPEAL:

Grounds for appeal must be provided. Please attached paperwork include player/witness statements

• TIMEFRAME AND COSTS

This application must be lodged with Football Central Queensland as per Football Central Queensland Disciplinary Policy 23.3 (within 7 days of the date on which the written Determination or notice from Football CQ was received). Applicant must also enclose appeal fee of \$500 which may be refunded if the appeal is upheld. Applicants wishing to involve Legal Representatives in the Appeals Process must also enclose a Lodgement fee of \$250.

• SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

I warrant that the information contained in this Application Form is true and correct.

SIGNED: _____ DATE: ____/____/____

PRINT NAME: _____

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Appeal Received:	____/____/20____
Date Appeal Fee Received:	____/____/20____
Received Evidence from Appellant to be relied on during Appeal:	____/____/20____
Notified of Appeal hearing and details:	____/____/20____
Documentation Sent to Club:	____/____/20____