



Section 4. Disciplinary Code.

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4.1 APPLICABILITY

- (1) This code applies to all competitions, matches and events participated in by:
- A) Member Clubs of the Association, Representative Teams their officials, coaches, players, club associate and supporters.
 - B) Association Board and Committee members.
 - C) Referees.

4.2 Definitions

- (1) In this Section, unless the context otherwise requires, the following terms shall mean:
- A) Club Associate(s) means one or more of the following, whether individually or collectively:
 - i) Club Office Bearers;
 - ii) Club Officials (coach, team manager, anyone who is officially associated with the Club).
 - iii) Players of a Club;
 - iv) Members of a Club;
 - v) Supporters of a Club including spectators at a Match who unless otherwise identified with a Club shall be deemed to be supporters of the Home Club ;
 - vi) Club(s).
 - B) Misconduct shall mean any act or omission by a Club Associate or a Match Official which constitutes:
 - i) a breach of the FIFA Statutes and Regulations;
 - ii) a breach of the Association's Rules, policy or code of conduct which may be in place from time to time;
 - iii) a breach of the Laws of the Game;
 - iv) a breach of Association's Rules of Competition;
 - v) participating, assisting or arranging the participation or assistance of others in any match fixing, gambling or betting activities in relation to a Match;
 - vi) in the opinion of the Association, conduct which is or may be prejudicial to the interests or reputation of either the game of Football in Victoria, the Association or of any of its sponsors.

4.3 GENERAL

- (1) All Disciplinary Matters in the League and Cup Competitions and Representative Teams will be dealt with under the powers and jurisdiction of the Association's Investigation and Disciplinary Committee (the "I&D Committee") and Tribunal (the "Tribunal").
- (2) The Association's Board is empowered to set fixed penalties in relation to playing offences and misconduct by any Club Associate in conjunction with the Tribunal Chairperson.



- (3) Disciplinary matters may be brought (by the Association's Board) against any person, however will primarily include such persons as players, coaches and or assistants including managers and alike, Association Board members, members of Clubs affiliated with the Association, parents or any other spectator.
- (4) Any disciplinary charge brought against any person as described above (3) shall be charged under one of the following three charges, "Conduct likely to bring the Association into Disrepute", "Conduct likely to bringing the Game into Disrepute", or "Behaving in a Manner Unbecoming an Association Representative".
- (5) A disciplinary hearing may be held (under the powers and jurisdiction of the I&D Committee or the Tribunal in relation to any personal behaviour, public comments or statements, or any other action against any person, player, process, official or representative of any organisation which may cause a detriment, perceived detriment, or likely to bring the image or reputation of the Association into disrepute.
- (6) Any suspensions incurred by Players in the local competitions, shall be served in the local Competitions. If at the conclusion of the local Competition, any suspensions that have not been served, then those suspensions will carry over and be served in the next match of that Player's team.
- (7) Should a Player be suspended resulting from another Competition (excluding Representative Teams), that Player **WILL NOT** be permitted to play until that suspension has been served.
- (8) The I&D Coordinator is to acknowledge a letter from an Association Club lodging a complaint within 7 days of receiving the complaint. A written response from the Association should be made back to the Club within 6 weeks of the receiving date.
- (9) All I&D Committee and Tribunal hearings must be held within 3 weeks of notification of the incident or the offence or the offence lapses.
- (10) All disciplinary matters will be referred to the I&D Coordinator who will review all available information and take one of the following actions:
 - A) Refer the matter to the Tribunal to hear the charges. See Clause 4.10.
 - B) Refer the matter to the I&D Committee to investigate. See Clause 4.7.
 - C) Advise that the automatic suspension stand. See Clause 4.5 and Clause 4.6.
 - D) Advise the parties that no action will be taken.



4.4 ON FIELD BREACHES

- (1) Any breach of the FIFA Laws of the Game, Association Constitution and Association Competition Rules shall be dealt with, where applicable, with the imposition of either:
 - A) caution (yellow card),
 - (2) expulsion (red card),
 - (3) misconduct charge,against a participant in accordance with the provisions of this Disciplinary Code.

- (2) The official depository for BDSA player records and penalties be the Football Vic online system. BDSA I and D coordinator to collate records and forward a report to all Clubs by the 10.00pm Wednesday.
The I and D Coordinator or agent must ensure the correlation of BDSA records and the online records by 5pm on the Wednesday following a round of matches to enable clubs to be able to be proactive where a player receives a red card or has accumulated 5 yellow cards in a season.

4.5 RED CARD OFFENCES

- (1) A player sent off the field of play shall automatically be suspended (as stipulated in Table 1. Red Card Offences) at the level at which the suspension is incurred. The player **is ineligible to participate in any team** until the week following the suspension has been served.
 - A) Mandatory Match Suspension means that a player who receives a Red Card cannot play in any more matches of the:
 - i) Current round, and
 - ii) Any matches of the next competitive round after the round in which the Red Card was received.

Table 1. Red Card Offences

Code	Send off offences	Disciplinary penalty
R1	Serious foul play	Mandatory Match Suspension plus 3 games/weeks
R2	Violent conduct	Mandatory Match suspension plus 3 games/weeks.
R3	Spitting at an opponent or any other person	Mandatory Match Suspension plus 5 games/weeks
R4	Denying 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/her own penalty area)	Mandatory Match Suspension
R5	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	Mandatory Match Suspension
R6	Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures towards an opponent or any other person	Mandatory Match Suspension plus 2 games/weeks.
R7	Receiving a second caution in the same match	Mandatory Match Suspension
R8	Offence against match officials:	
	Unsporting conduct	Auto +2
	Using offensive language and or gestures	Auto +4
	Repeated use of offensive language and/or gestures	Auto +6
	Inappropriate contact and/or conduct	Auto +10
	Threatening or intimidating language and/or conduct towards a \match \official or conduct reasonably perceived as a threat of physical violence towards a Match official or their family or property.	Auto +16
	Spitting at or on a Match Official	1 year
	Violence towards a Match Official and/or their family or property	2-5 years
	Violence towards a green shirt Referee or junior Match Official and/or their family or property	2 years



- (2) The match official is not permitted to use any other Send-Off Offence codes when recording send-off offences on the Team Sheet and Misconduct Summary Forms in any Association match.
- (3) All misconduct reports for a send-off offence or misconduct by a club Associate not covered by the Red Card offences shall be reviewed by the Association's I&D Coordinator.
- A) All players will serve the minimum length suspension for that Red Card offence unless:
- i) Increased by the I&D Coordinator after the review.
 - a) For R2 offences, up to 9 games/weeks for serious act of violent conduct, or up to 30 games/weeks for violent conduct against a Match Official.
 - b) For R3 offences, up to 5 games/weeks, or up to 9 games/weeks for spitting at a Match Official.
 - c) For R6 offences, up to 4 games/weeks for discriminatory intent including racist, religious, ethnic or sexist, or up to 6 games/weeks for targeting a Match Official.
 - ii) Reduced by an appeal under Section 4.13.1
 - iii) A deduction of one week for an early guilty plea will apply, however, in accordance with the FFV disciplinary code, there will be no reduction in penalty for serious offences
- B) The minimum suspension provisions of Table 1, shall also apply to a Club Associate as determined by the I&D Coordinator's review of the relevant misconduct report unless increased by the I&D Coordinator after review as per Section 4.5 (3) A).
- C) After this review the I&D Coordinator will notify the Club of the length of the suspension that must be served.
- D) This review may result in an investigatory hearing before the I&D Committee or charges laid requiring the attendance of the player or Club Associate and referee at a Tribunal.
- (4) Any suspensions imposed on a player or Club Associate by the Tribunal shall be served in consecutive matches of his/her Club's fixture, in Association League and Cup Competitions, in the current or following season.
- (5) A fine may be imposed by the Association for send-off offences in Association competitions. The amount of the fine will be determined by the Association (as per Association's current *Schedule of Fees and Charges*), and the player's **Club** is responsible for the payment of the send-off fine imposed.
- (6) A fine may be imposed by the Association for suspension of Club Associates. The amount of the fine will be determined by the Association (as per Association's current *Schedule of Fees and Charges*), and the Club Associate's **Club** is responsible for the payment of the fine imposed.



- (7) When a player accumulates two (2) expulsions (red cards) during the regular season, he/ she will receive a two-match suspension. The date of the suspension will be next two games on the fixture the following suspensions for the 2nd expulsion (red card) excluding byes but including finals games.

4.6 YELLOW CARD OFFENCES

- (1) When a player accumulates the number of cautions given in Table 2 during the regular season including the final series, he/ she will receive the suspension given in Table 2. The date of the suspension will commence on the next game of the fixture following the week when the accumulation number was reached, excluding byes but including finals games.

Table 2. Yellow Card Accumulations

Number	Suspension
5	1 week
8	2 weeks
11	3 weeks
14	4 weeks

- (2) A fine will be imposed by the Association for each Yellow Card accumulation suspension in Association competitions. The fine is specified in the Association's current *Schedule of Fees and Charges*, and the player's **Club** is responsible for the payment of the fine imposed.
- (3) Two cautions received during the same match incur an expulsion i.e. a red card, and consequently, an automatic suspension as defined in Section 4.5 and Table 1.

Table 3. Yellow Card Offences

Code	Cautionable Offence	Code	Cautionable Offence
Y1	Unsporting behaviour	Y2	Dissent by word or action
Y3	Persistent infringes of the Laws of the Game	Y4	Delaying the restart of play
Y5	Failure to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free kick or throw-in	Y6	Entering or re-entering the field of play without the referee's permission
Y7	Deliberately leaving the field of play without the referee's permission		

- (4) The match official is not permitted to use any other cautionable offence codes when recording cautions on the Team Sheet and Misconduct Summary Forms in any Association match.

4.7 MEDIATION

- (1) The Association is committed to the elimination of all misconduct.



- (2) In relation to any alleged Misconduct or other matter, The Association may require a Club Associate to attend a meeting with the Association and an independent person who shall act as a mediator for the purpose of attempting to reach agreement as to how such allegations are to be dealt with.
- (3) Such meeting shall be conducted on a without prejudice basis and the mediator shall have no power to impose any decision on any of the parties.
- (4) A failure by an Association Club Associate to attend such a meeting when requested without reasonable excuse shall amount to Misconduct.
- (5) Unless agreement is reached at such a meeting and recorded in writing and signed by the parties, the Association may in its complete discretion, decide to refer any allegations of Misconduct or other matter to the Tribunal.

4.8 OFF FIELD BREACHES

- (1) The Association Board has the right to investigate any off field breaches of Section 5 *Code of Conduct* or any actions which may bring the game into disrepute, and refer these matters to the I&D Committee
- (2) After the investigation the Board may impose a penalty on the Club or an individual as it see fit.
- (3) A deduction of one week for an early guilty plea will apply, however, in accordance with the FFV disciplinary code, there will be no reduction in penalty for serious offences
- (4) A Club or an individual can appeal the penalty under Section 4.13.3

4.9 I&D COMMITTEE

- (1) The Association reserves the right to refer any disciplinary matters that require investigation to the I&D Committee.
- (2) Notification
 - A) The parties to the matter under investigation will be notified in writing of the following:
 - i) The alleged offence/s that are being investigated;
 - ii) The time and place of the hearing.
 - B) Clubs, players and other parties summoned to appear before the I&D Committee, must receive at least three (3) working days notification prior to the I&D Committee hearing. The Association reserves the right to reduce the notice period to twenty-four (24) hours if it requires an urgent resolution to the matter.
- (3) Parties are advised to prepare their evidence carefully. This may include:
 - A) witness/witness statements
 - B) the attendance of witness



- (4) A Club summoned to appear before the I&D Committee must attend, when advised. If the Club fails to attend the I&D Committee, the I&D Committee may determine to investigate the matters in the Club's absence
- (5) The players or Club Associates summoned to appear before the I&D Committee must attend. If the player or Club Associate fails to attend the I&D Committee may, in its discretion:
 - A) Suspend the player or Club Associate until the player *or Club Associate* appears; or
 - B) Proceed in the absence of the player or Club Associate if the I&D Committee is satisfied that the player or Club Associate has been duly notified of the I&D Committee hearing.
- (6) A player or Club Associate can write to Association indicating that they have a valid reason for not attending and submit a statement.
- (7) An advocate may be appointed by Association to present the case on its behalf at the I&D Committee hearing.
- (8) Subject to further matters set out in these rules, the I&D Committee may regulate any proceedings before it in such manner as it deems appropriate.
- (9) The hearing before the I&D Committee shall be:
 - A) Inquisitorial in nature; and
 - B) Conducted with as little formality and technicality and with as much expedition as proper consideration of the matters before it permit.
- (10) The I&D Committee is not bound by the rules of evidence or by the practices and procedures applicable to Courts of record but may inform itself as to any matter in any such manner as it deems fit.
- (11) The I&D Committee Chair may make guidelines, not inconsistent with these rules for the practice and procedure with respect of a hearing. Any such guidelines are directory in nature and any decision of the I&D Committee is not invalid by reason of a guideline not being followed.
- (12) The I&D Committee shall:
 - A) Provide any person whose interests will be directly and adversely affected by its decision a reasonable opportunity to be heard;
 - B) Hear and determine the matter before it in an unbiased manner and
 - C) Make a decision that a reasonable I&D Committee could honestly arrive at.
- (13) The I&D Committee shall decide the matter on the balance of probabilities. No person appearing before the I&D Committee shall bear an onus establishing that the alleged reportable offences have been committed.
- (14) The I&D Committee may adopt the following procedures:
 - A) the I&D Committee Chair will read out the complaint;



- B) the plaintiffs and respondents in non-disciplinary proceedings will be invited to make an opening summary on matters upon which they seek to rely;
 - C) the I&D Committee Chair may instruct witnesses to wait outside and away from the hearing room until they are called upon to give evidence. Parties may request witnesses to be ordered out of and away of the hearing room;
 - D) the I&D Committee Chair will disclose all documents Association seek to rely on and read any report not previously provided by Association;
 - E) if the author of the report is present that, person will be invited to confirm and then clarify and/or adapt any such report;
 - F) in a matter brought to the I&D Committee by a referee's action, the I&D Committee members may seek clarification from the referee;
 - G) Parties will be invited to question each of the said authors, other than referees, into matters relevant to the report. Where evidence is given in writing and there is not an opportunity to question the author, the I&D Committee shall attach such weight as it deems appropriate to this evidence
 - H) The parties will be invited to give their evidence as to matters before the I&D Committee and call witnesses as to the facts relevant to the case. All parties and witnesses may be subject to questioning by the members of the I&D Committee;
 - I) Evidence may be given orally or in writing where the evidence is given in writing and there is no opportunity to cross-examine the witness the I&D Committee will attach such weight to the evidence as it thinks fit.
 - J) Evidence may be given in person or by way of a telephone or video link up.
- (15) At the completion of the hearing:
- A) the parties shall be excused from the I&D Committee room;
 - B) the I&D Committee will consider the evidence and any submissions made during the hearing and make its determination with respect to the laying of charges;
 - C) questions before the I&D Committee must be decided according to the opinion of the majority members constituting the I&D Committee;
 - D) the I&D Committee shall reconvene and announce its decision;

4.10 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- (1) At the request of a member Club, the I&D Coordinator will provide updates back to members involved in a matter on the progress and status of a lodged complaint.



- (2) The frequency of the updates will be agreed between the Club and the I and D Coordinator, or if an agreement cannot be reached, at no more than three (3) weekly intervals.
- (3) The I&D Coordinator can, at their discretion, redact information within these provided updates if they feel the nature of the information may unduly prejudice or influence the ongoing investigation into the reported matter or protect the privacy of individuals connected to the matter. The I&D Coordinator although cannot redact a progress update in full. The I&D Coordinator is obliged to provide some indication of the status of the investigation when such an update is requested.
- (4) A report on the deliberations and rulings on finalised matters (matters no longer under active investigation and considered settled/resolved) shall be made available to current association members upon request, including but not limited to reports of findings/rulings prepared by the tribunal.
- (5) The I&D Coordinator can, at their discretion, redact personal information from finalised reports in order to protect the privacy of individuals connected to a finalised matter.
- (6) Finalised reports are considered confidential to the Association, and no association member shall share contents of a report with anyone who is not a current member of the Association without the express permission of the I&D Coordinator.

4.11 TRIBUNAL

4.11.1 GENERAL

- (1) The Association reserves the right to refer all disciplinary matters and disputes to the Tribunal or a conciliation process if appropriate
- (2) An advocate may be appointed by Association to present the case on its behalf at the tribunal/appeals hearing. An advocate is someone without legal training or experience and who does not appear in courts or tribunals as part of their normal occupation.
- (3) Any player or Club Associate may appoint a "Friend" to present his/her/their case at the tribunal/appeals hearing. A Friend is someone without legal training or experience and who does not appear in courts or tribunals as part of their normal occupation.
- (4) Any Club may appoint a "Friend" to present its case at the tribunal/appeals hearing. A Friend is someone without legal training or experience and who does not appear in courts or tribunals as part of their normal occupation.
- (5) Subject to further matters set out in these rules, the Tribunal may regulate any proceedings before it in such manner as it deems appropriate.



- (6) The hearing/appeals before the Tribunal shall be:
 - A) inquisitorial in nature; and
 - B) Conducted with as little formality and technicality and with as much expedition as proper consideration of the matters before it permit.
- (7) The Tribunal is not bound by the rules of evidence or by the practices and procedures applicable to Courts of record but may inform itself as to any matter in any such manner as it deems fit.
- (8) The Tribunal Chair may make guidelines, not inconsistent with these rules, for the practice and procedure with respect of a hearing. Any such guidelines are directory in nature, and any decision of the Tribunal is not invalid by reason of a guideline not being followed.
- (9) The Tribunal shall:
 - A) provide any person whose interests will be directly and adversely affected by its decision a reasonable opportunity to be heard;
 - B) hear and determine the matter before it in an unbiased manner and
 - C) Make a decision that a reasonable Tribunal could honestly arrive at.
- (10) The Tribunal shall decide the matter on the balance of probabilities. No person appearing before the Tribunal shall bear any onus of establishing that the alleged reportable offences have been committed.

4.11.2 HEARING OF AN OFFENCE

- (1) Notification
 - A) The alleged offender/s (charged party) will be notified in writing of the following:
 - i) the alleged offence/s that they are being charged with;
 - ii) The time and place of the hearing.
 - B) The I&D Coordinator must provide all relevant material that may assist the alleged offender/s in their defence.
 - C) Clubs, players and other parties summoned to appear before the Tribunal, must receive at least three (3) working days notification prior to the Tribunal/Appeals hearing. Association reserves the right to reduce the notice period to twenty-four (24) hours if it requires an urgent resolution to the matter.
- (2) Parties are advised to prepare their case carefully. This may include:
 - A) plea to charge (guilty or not guilty)
 - B) witness/witness statements
 - C) the attendance of witness(es)
- (3) A Club summoned to appear before the Tribunal must attend, when advised. If the Club fails to attend the Tribunal, the Tribunal may determine to hear the charges in the Club's absence. Such failure to attend shall be deemed evidence of misconduct and the Tribunal reserves the right to impose a penalty on any Club or party, as they see fit.



- (4) The players or Club Associates summoned to appear before the Tribunal must attend. If the player or Club Associate fails to attend the Tribunal may, in its discretion:
 - A) suspend the player or Club Associate until the player *or Club Associate* appears; or
 - B) Proceed in the absence of the player or Club Associate if the Tribunal is satisfied that the player or Club Associate has been duly notified of the Tribunal hearing.
- (5) A player or Club Associate can write to Association indicating that they have a valid reason for not attending and the likely charge(s) to be determined by the Tribunal in their absence. In this situation, the player or Club Associate must present their plea (guilty or not guilty) and detail their defence to the charge.
- (6) The Tribunal may adopt the following procedures:
 - A) The Tribunal Chair will read out each charge;
 - B) The charged person will be asked if they pleaded guilty or not guilty;
 - C) The Tribunal Chair may instruct witnesses to wait outside and away from the hearing room until they are called upon to give evidence. Parties may request witnesses to be ordered out of and away from the hearing room;
 - D) The Tribunal Chair will disclose all documents Association seek to rely on and read any report not previously provided by Association;
 - E) If the author of the report is present, that person will be invited to confirm and then clarify and/or adapt any such report;
 - F) In a matter brought to the Tribunal by a referee's action, the Tribunal members may seek clarification from the referee;
 - G) Parties will be invited to question each of the said authors, other than referees, into matters relevant to the report. Where evidence is given in writing and there is not an opportunity to question the author, the Tribunal shall attach such weight as it deems appropriate to this evidence
 - H) The parties will be invited to give their evidence as to matters before the Tribunal and call witnesses as to the facts relevant to the case. All parties and witnesses may be subject to questioning by the members of the Tribunal;
 - I) Evidence may be given orally or in writing. Where the evidence is given in writing and there is no opportunity to cross-examine the witness, the Tribunal will attach such weight to the evidence as it thinks fit.
 - J) Evidence may be given in person or by way of a telephone or video link up.
- (7) At the completion of the evidence:
 - A) the parties shall be excused from the Tribunal room;



- B) the Tribunal will consider the evidence and any submissions made during the hearing, and make its determination with respect to the guilt of the charges;
- C) questions before the Tribunal must be decided according to the opinion of the majority members constituting the Tribunal;
- D) after the Tribunal has reached its decision on the offence before it, the I&D Coordinator will inform the Tribunal of any other offences that the player has committed and that the I&D Coordinator is aware of, and the Tribunal will decide the penalty.
- E) the Tribunal shall reconvene and announce its decision;

4.11.3 HEARING OF AN APPEAL

- (1) Notification
 - A) The appellant will be notified in writing of the time and place of the hearing.
- (2) Parties are advised to prepare their case carefully. This may include:
 - A) grounds for appeal,
 - B) witness/witness statements,
 - C) the attendance of witness(es),
- (3) The Tribunal may adopt the following procedures:
 - A) The Tribunal Chair will read out original charge.
 - B) The I&D Coordinator will inform the Tribunal of any other offences that the appellant has committed and that the I&D Coordinator is aware of.
 - C) The appellant will state the grounds of the appeal.
 - D) The Tribunal Chair may instruct witnesses to wait outside and away from the hearing room until they are called upon to give evidence.
 - E) The parties will be invited to give their evidence as to matters before the Tribunal and call witnesses as to the facts relevant to the case. All parties and witnesses may be subject to questioning by the members of the Tribunal.
 - F) Evidence may be given orally or in writing. Where the evidence is given in writing and there is no opportunity to cross-examine the witness, the Tribunal will attach such weight to the evidence as it thinks fit.
 - G) Evidence may be given in person or by way of a telephone or video link up.
- (4) At the completion of the evidence:
 - A) the parties shall be excused from the Tribunal room;
 - B) the Tribunal will consider the evidence and any submissions made during the hearing and make its determination with respect to:
 - i) the guilt of the charges, and
 - ii) procedural fairness.



- C) questions before the Tribunal must be decided according to the opinion of the majority members constituting the Tribunal;
- D) the Tribunal shall reconvene and announce its decision;

4.12 PENALTY AND SANCTION

- (1) The Tribunal shall ask the parties to make any submission on penalty.
- (2) The Tribunal may have regard to any matters which it considers relevant to the question of sanction and without limitation may consider:
 - A) the seriousness of the charge;
 - B) any injuries sustained and the effect upon the person against whom the charge has been committed;
 - C) The prior record of the charged person and, insofar as they are relevant, the objectives of the Association.
- (3) The Tribunal is not obliged to give reasons for any decision made under these rules.
- (4) The Tribunal may impose, at its own unfettered discretion any one or more of the following penalties:
 - A) Expulsion
 - B) Disqualification
 - C) Suspension
 - D) Fine
 - E) Reprimand
 - F) Declared defunct where applicable
 - G) Deduction of Competition points in the present Competition year where applicable
 - H) Bond
 - I) Or such penalty or remedy the Association deems appropriate.
 - J) Reduce the penalty to the level deemed appropriate for the offence.

4.13 APPEALS

4.13.1 APPEALS AGAINST A FIXED PENALTY OF SECTION 4.5 OR 4.9

- (1) The Tribunal shall hear appeals against a fixed penalty of Clause 4.5
- (2) All "Notices of Appeal" must be on the form given in *Attachment 1 – Notice of Appeal Form* and delivered to B&DSA, PO Box 75 Sebastopol Victoria 3356 within seven days after notification of a suspension.
- (3) Tribunal Hearings shall commence within fourteen (14) days of the appeal against a fixed penalty being lodged.
 - A) The player will remain suspended pending the hearing of the appeal.



- B) The Mandatory Match Suspension must be served irrespective of any appeal outcome.
- (4) The decision of the tribunal **shall be final**. An appeal fee as specified in the Association's current *Schedule of Fees and Charges* must be lodged with the appeal.
- (5) The Association reserves the right to appeal **any** decision of the Tribunal.

4.13.2 APPEALS AGAINST TRIBUNAL RULINGS

- (1) If a Member Club wishes to appeal a decision of the Tribunal, excluding rulings handed down as a result of an *Appeals Against a Fixed Penalty of Section 4.5 or 4.9* Clause 4.13.1, then the Club must do so within 14 days of the date given on the notice giving the decision.
- (2) Appeals must be on the form given in *Attachment 1 – Notice of Appeal Form* and delivered to the Association Secretary during normal business hours, or sent by registered post accompanied by the Appeal Fee specified in the Association's current *Schedule of Fees and Charges*.
- (3) The Association will convene an Appeals Tribunal within 14 days of notification of the appeal being received. The Appeals Tribunal will consist of members who have not previously dealt with the issue under appeal.
- (4) Players are free to play pending the Tribunal hearing following the serving of the lesser of a three-match suspension or half the suspension handed down by the Tribunal. If half of the suspension handed down by the Tribunal is less than 1 week then the suspension will be 1 week.

4.13.3 APPEALS AGAINST ASSOCIATION DECISIONS

- (1) The Tribunal may hear appeals against any penalty (monetary or otherwise) given to a Club by the Association Board on payment of the prescribed fee.
- (2) If a Member Club wishes to appeal a decision of the Association then the Club must do so within 14 days of the date given on the correspondence giving the decision.
- (3) If a Member Club wishes to appeal a fine imposed by the Association then the Club must do so within 30 days of the date given on the invoice imposing the fine.
- (4) Appeals must be on the form given in *Attachment 1 – Notice of Appeal Form* and delivered to the Association Secretary during normal business hours, or sent by registered post accompanied by the Appeal Fee specified in the Association's current *Schedule of Fees and Charges*.
- (5) The Association will convene an Appeals Tribunal within 14 days of notification of the appeal being received. The Appeals Tribunal will consist of members who have not previously dealt with the issue under appeal.



ATTACHMENT 1 – NOTICE OF APPEAL FORM

Name of person and Club.

Phone _____

E-mail

hereby lodge an appeal (*please tick one*):

- Against a fixed penalty (Clause 4.13.1).
- Against a Tribunal ruling (Clause 4.13.2)
- Against an Association decision (Clause 4.13.3).

Brief description of original offence or issues.

Brief description of reason for the appeal.

