

# NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUES DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS

## 1. COMPETITION

- 1.1. The Competition is the National Premier Leagues club competition that involves a home and away series of matches plus a Final Series as scheduled by Football Queensland.
- 1.2. These Disciplinary Rules are set by Football Queensland as the competition administrator of the National Premier Leagues Competition, and supplement the National Disciplinary Regulations in accordance with clause 1.2 of those Regulations.

## 2. SANCTIONS

- 2.1. The application of sanctions to be issued to Participants for direct red cards will be in accordance with the range of sanctions outlined in the National Disciplinary Regulations.
- 2.2. Where a Player receives an indirect red card, he will serve a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) match.
- 2.3. A Player who accumulates the following number of yellow cards during the course of the Competition must serve the following Mandatory Match Suspension:
  - (a) Five (5) yellow cards, equates to a one (1) mandatory match suspension;
  - (b) For every three (3) yellow cards thereafter, a two (2) mandatory match suspension.  
*(For example, two (2) match suspension for eight (8) yellow cards).*
- 2.4. A Player who accumulates the following number of direct red cards during the course of the Competition or the Final Series must serve the following Mandatory Match Suspensions, in addition to the sanction for the offence.
  - (a) 1st occasion, equates to a one (1) match suspension;
  - (b) Any subsequent occasion, equates to a two (2) match suspension.

## 3. MISCONDUCT

- 3.1. All instances of players, officials or teams conducting themselves in a manner contravening the rules of the competition, or behaving in an unseemly manner likely to bring the game into disrepute, shall be investigated by Football Queensland for consideration and subsequent action.
- 3.2. Football Queensland may, consistent with the FFA Statutes, sanction a Club whose Participants engage in Team Misconduct. Team Misconduct in relation to a Club is where:
  - (a) Five (5) of its Players are cautioned during a Competition match;
  - (b) Three (3) of its Participants are sent off or expelled during a Competition match;
  - (c) 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
  - (d) Its Participants engage in a melee or brawl.

#### **4. NOTIFICATION AND TIMEFRAMES**

- 4.1 The imposition of a mandatory match suspension is immediate. For completeness, Football Queensland will send a Disciplinary Infringement Notice notifying the Player or Team Official (through the Club) of the mandatory match suspension within four (4) days of the completion of the weekend. For the avoidance of doubt, the mandatory match suspension is effective regardless of whether or not the notice was received.
- 4.2 If Football Queensland has determined that an Offence by a Player or a Team Official was such as to warrant a sanction in addition to the mandatory match suspension, a Disciplinary Infringement Notice notifying the Player or Team Official (through the Club) of the details of the Offence and of the disciplinary sanction imposed will be forwarded within four (4) days of the completion of the weekend.
- 4.3 Any match suspension is to be served in the competition in which the player participated in receiving the suspension and the player is not eligible to play in any competition match until the day after that team have participated in the appropriate number of matches.

#### **5. TERMS OF SUSPENSION**

- 5.1 While serving a suspension, a Participant (player or team official) may not:
- (a) On the day of a Match, 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;
  - (b) If attending a Match, be seated in an area normally reserved for Participants; and
  - (c) Within two (2) hours of the start a Match from which the Participant is suspended and within one (1) hour of the conclusion of the match from which the Participant is suspended have any contact with:
    - (i) any media where the purpose is for electronic broadcast to the public, and
    - (ii) any Participant while that Participant is in an area listed within clause 5.1(a).

#### **6. DISCIPLINARY HEARING PROCEDURES**

- 6.1 Except in the case of obvious error, the particulars of which are exclusively contained at clause 4.3 of National Disciplinary Regulations, there is no appeal from a mandatory match suspension.
- 6.2 A Player or a Team Official may appeal an additional disciplinary sanction imposed in a Disciplinary Infringement Notice by notifying Football Queensland within seven (7) days after the date on which the Disciplinary Infringement Notice was received by completing a Disciplinary Hearing Application and enclosing the Appeal Fee of \$500. This fee will be refunded if the appeal is upheld.
- 6.3 An appeal from a Competition Administrator's disciplinary sanction must be heard by a Disciplinary Committee. When determining any appropriate sanction, a Disciplinary Committee may consider:
- (a) The nature and severity of the infringement;
  - (b) The offender's past record and whether or not this is a repeated Offence;
  - (c) The culpability of the offender (including whether or not the infringement was intentional, negligent or reckless);
  - (d) Any reasons prompting a the offender to commit an infringement;
  - (e) The remorse of the offender; and
  - (f) Any extenuating circumstances.

## 7. SANCTIONS UNDER FFA STATUTES

7.1 Subject to these Regulations, the following disciplinary sanctions may be imposed against a Club:

- (a) a reprimand;
- (b) a fine;
- (c) place the Club on a bond;
- (d) a deduction or loss of competition points;
- (e) ban on the registration or transfer of any Players for a specified period of time;
- (f) annulment of registration of a Player;
- (g) suspension from participation in an A-League Match or Matches;
- (h) exclusion, suspension or expulsion from the A-League;
- (i) playing a match without spectators or on neutral territory;
- (j) a ban on playing in a particular stadium;
- (k) annulment of the result of the match; or
- (l) such other disciplinary sanctions or measures as is appropriate in all the circumstances, including as prescribed in the FIFA Statutes.

7.2. Subject to these Regulations, the following disciplinary sanctions may be imposed against a Participant:

- (a) a reprimand;
- (b) a fine;
- (c) return of award;
- (d) place the individual on a bond;
- (e) ban on registration of Player with any Club for a specified period of time;
- (f) annulment of registration of a Player;
- (g) suspension from participation in an A-League Match or Matches;
- (h) suspension or expulsion from the A-League;
- (i) suspension or cancellation of licence or accreditation, including Licensed Player Agent's licence or coaching accreditation;
- (j) termination of registration or playing contract;
- (k) a ban from the dressing rooms and/or the substitutes' bench;
- (l) a ban from entering a stadium;
- (m) ban on taking part in any football related activity; or
- (n) such other disciplinary sanctions or measures as is appropriate in all the circumstances, including as prescribed in the FIFA Statutes.