

## **IHA GAMES DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE**

Section 1 applies to all Irish Cup Competitions and to the Irish Hockey League excluding the Finals Weekend and the Wildcard Play-offs, which are governed by the IHA Disciplinary Procedure for Tournaments (Section 2).

Section 2 applies to all Irish Tournament Format Competitions.

### **SECTION 1**

#### **I.1 GAMES DISCIPLINARY PANEL**

- I.1.1 The Chair of the Games Disciplinary Panel shall be appointed annually by the IHA Board.
- I.1.2 The Games Disciplinary Panel shall contain up to 6 personnel appointed annually by the IHA CE.
- I.1.3 For the purposes of any hearing or decision to be made by the Games Disciplinary Panel, the Chair will request any two of the Panel members to act with him/her as the Games Disciplinary Tribunal.
- I.1.4 No person who has previously been involved in the incident or is in any way connected to the person or body involved in the incident may sit on the Games Disciplinary Tribunal relating to the matter.
- I.1.5 The Chair will invoke a Games Disciplinary Panel on being notified by the IHA Office that a Red Card Report has been received.
- I.1.6 The Games Disciplinary Panel will be entitled, if required, to call upon and accept legal advice from a legal assessor in the event that legal issues are raised in the context of a Disciplinary matter.

#### **I.2 RED CARD**

- I.2.1 The Umpire who issued the Red Card must submit a Red Card Report to arrive at the IHA Office within 72 hours of the completion of the match. The Umpire shall not engage in any communications with the player concerned or representatives of the player's club prior to, or subsequent to, completing the Red Card Report.
- I.2.2 Where a Technical Officer has been appointed to a match, the Match Report must be submitted to the IHA Office to arrive within 48 hours of the completion of the match.

#### **I.3 DISCIPLINARY PROCESS**

- I.3.1 The Games Disciplinary Tribunal will review the contents of the Red Card Report within four days of the Red Card Report being received in the IHA Office to decide whether the mandatory minimum suspension should be increased.
- I.3.2 The Games Disciplinary Tribunal shall decide when the minimum suspension shall be applied and, if applicable, when any further suspension shall be applied

**1.3.3** The decision of the Games Disciplinary Tribunal shall be communicated within 24 hours to the following:

- The Club Secretary of the player concerned;
- The Competitions Committee or IHL Administration Committee, as appropriate
- The Branch Secretary of the player concerned;
- The IHA Office

## **1.4 SANCTIONS**

**1.4.1** The *mandatory minimum period* of suspension for a Red Card is one match, to be applied in the competition under which the Red Card was issued.

**1.4.2** If the player's team will be playing no further part in the current season in the Irish Competition in which the Red Card was issued, then the sanction will be served by the player in the following order:

- In the very next Irish Competition match (IHL, Irish Cup, Interprovincial), within the current season
- In the first match of the following season in the Irish Competition in which the Red Card was issued

### **1.4.3 Additional Sanctions**

- In addition to the mandatory minimum suspension, the Games Disciplinary Tribunal may impose any additional sanction, including further suspension, if it deems fit.
- An additional sanction is likely, but not limited to, where physical violence is used, attempted or threatened to another player, umpire or appointed Technical Official.

### **1.4.4 Yellow Cards**

An accumulation by a player of 3 yellow cards in one competition will lead in all cases to a one match suspension, the suspension to be applied in the competition under which the 3 yellow cards were issued.

If the player's team will be playing no further part in the current season in the Irish Competition in which the 3 Yellow Cards were issued, then the sanction will be served by the player in the following order:

- In the very next Irish Competition match (IHL, Irish Cup, Interprovincial), within the current season
- In the first match of the following season in the Irish Competition in which the 3 Yellow Cards were issued

## **1.5 APPEALS**

**1.5.1** Where an additional sanction or further suspension has been applied by the Games Disciplinary Tribunal over and above the mandatory minimum suspension, the player or the player's club may appeal the further sanction or suspension to an Appeals Board to be appointed by the IHA Management Board as outlined in s.29 of the IHA Constitution, such appeal to be treated

as if it were an appeal from a decision of the Disciplinary Committee under section 29.c. of the IHA Constitution.

## **SECTION 2**

### **2. DISCIPLINE – TOURNAMENTS**

#### **2.1 INTRODUCTION**

**Section 2** applies to all Irish Competitions played under tournament conditions, including: Interprovincials, All Ireland Schools Competitions (Kate Russell and John Waring competitions) and to the Irish Hockey League Finals Weekend and Wildcard Play-offs.

#### **2.2 TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR**

**2.2.1** A Tournament Director will be appointed by the competition organising committee to run the tournament. The Tournament Director has full power and authority in matters concerning the conduct of the tournament in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the particular competition.

**2.2.2** The Tournament Director has the authority to suspend players, team officials or other officials, who, in the opinion of the Tournament Director, are guilty of misconduct. In deciding the length of any suspension, the Tournament Director is limited to the remaining matches of the tournament but may at his discretion, report the matter to the Chief Executive of the IHA for consideration as a disciplinary matter to be considered by the Disciplinary Committee, in which case further suspension and penalties may be considered and further to that impose a suspension that has effect beyond the conclusion of the tournament.

#### **2.3 RED CARD**

**2.3.1** The Umpire who issued the Red Card must submit a Red Card Report to the Tournament Director within 45 minutes of the completion of the match. The Umpire shall not engage in any communication with the player concerned or representatives of the player's club, school or branch prior to, or subsequent to, completing the Red Card Report.

**2.3.2** Where a Technical Officer has been appointed to a match, the Match Report must be submitted to the Tournament Director within 10 minutes of the completion of the match.

**2.3.3** The Tournament Director shall decide, based on the content of the Reports, whether to impose a further sanction beyond the ***mandatory minimum suspension of one match and shall have the discretion to report the matter to the Chief Executive of the IHA as outlined in 2.2.2 above.***

**2.3.4** The Tournament Director shall communicate his/her decision to the player's Team Manager in writing within three hours of receiving the Umpire's Red Card Report.

## **2.4 SANCTIONS**

**2.4.1** The *mandatory minimum period* of suspension is one match, to be applied in the next match of the tournament after which the Red Card was issued.

**2.4.2** If the player's team will be playing no further part in the tournament in which the Red Card was issued, then the sanction will be served in the following order

- In the very next Irish Competition match (IHL, Irish Cup, Interprovincial), within the current season
- In the first Irish Competition match of the following season

### **2.4.3 Additional Sanctions**

**8.4.3.1** In addition to the mandatory minimum suspension, the Tournament Director may impose any additional sanction, including further suspension, if he deems fit.

**8.4.3.2** An additional sanction is likely, but not limited to, where physical violence is used, attempted or threatened to another player, umpire or appointed Technical Official

### **2.4.4 Yellow Cards**

An accumulation by a player of 3 yellow cards will lead in all cases to a one match suspension, the suspension to be served as outlined in section 2.4.2.

## **2.5 APPEALS**

**2.5.1** Where an additional sanction or further suspension has been applied by the Tournament Director over and above the mandatory minimum suspension, the player or the player's club, school or branch may appeal the further sanction or suspension within 30 minutes of receiving the decision from the Tournament Director, to the Tournament Appeal Tribunal.

**2.5.2** The Tournament Director will appoint a panel of 3 members to consider the appeal, which must be completed 1 hour before the player's next match.

**2.5.3** A Tournament Appeal Panel (including a Chairman) must be appointed in advance of all Tournaments by the Tournament Director to ensure that there is transparency in such appointments, and the Tournament Appeal Tribunal will be drawn from this Appeal Panel and consist of three members of the Appeal Panel.

**2.5.4** The decision of the Appeal Tribunal shall be final in respect of participation in the particular Tournament but does not preclude the Tournament Director from reporting conduct to the Chief Executive for further investigation under section 2.2.2.