

Queensland Christian Soccer Association (QCSA)

By-Laws Of The Queensland Christian Soccer Association Inc.

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For GOD Through Sport
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DEFINITIONS

AGM	Annual General Meeting, also known as “AGM”
COC	Council of Clubs, also known as “COC”
IFAB:	The International Football Association Board
Laws of the Game:	The Laws of the Game (“LOTG”) including directions issued thereto as issued by IFAB from time to time. Unless stated to the contrary the IFAB LOTG will apply.
Member Club	Member Club means a Club which has been admitted as: (a) A Full Member; or (b) An Associate Member; or (c) An Affiliate Member.
On or near the field	On the field or field means where a QCSA football game is taking place and for up to 20 minutes from the conclusion of the FINAL game at that location, and includes up to 50 metres from a touchline or goal line of the field, but does not include any of the following three (3) exclusions, specifically any area which: (a) Is separated from the field of play by a natural or manmade water channel, road, footpath, or other thoroughfare; or (b) Falls outside the leased or owned premises of QCSA club or body; Or (c) Is within the clubhouse of the QCSA club, provided the QCSA club holds a licence under the Queensland Liquor Act or is authorised under its lease to permit alcohol consumption on its premises.
QCSA	Queensland Christian Soccer Association Inc., also known as “the Association”
QCSRA:	Queensland Churches Soccer Referees Association Inc - an affiliated Association.
SCM:	The Standing Committee of Management appointed pursuant to the Rules of this Association

1. PLAYER'S EQUIPMENT AND DRESS

1.1. STRIPS

- (1) Players in all matches must appear in proper matching football uniform consisting of sleeved shirts or jerseys/strips, shorts and socks in the club's registered colours as outlined in Appendix A plus shin guards and footwear. Shin guards shall be made of a suitable material (rubber, plastic, polyurethane etc.) and shall afford a reasonable degree of protection.
- (2) The use of tape or similar material applied externally to the players' socks must be the same colour as the predominant colour of the socks.

1.2. NUMBERS

All players and reserves in a team are to be identifiable by a separate individual number not less than 5" (125mm) in height, individually numbered.

1.3. SPONSORSHIP

Sponsorship on team uniforms shall be in accordance with Appendix B.

2. FEES AND PENALTIES

2.1. FEES & PENALTIES

- (1) All fees and penalties are set annually at the AGM (GST inclusive where applicable).
- (2) Where Fixture Fees are charged as a one-off fee for the season or are charged over a number of installments during the season no refund shall be paid for any fixture matches not played.

2.2. MATCHES FORFEITED, ABANDONED, POSTPONED & SUSPENDED

- (1) A club giving insufficient notice of forfeit for one of its teams shall be liable for any fees applicable to its own team and its opponent's team fees for that match. (Insufficient notice:- later than 7:30 pm. three (3) days prior to the scheduled match)
- (2) A club giving sufficient notice of forfeit for one of its teams shall be liable for any fees applicable to its own team for the match.
- (3) When a team is unable to present itself to start or continue a match then the club shall be liable for any fees applicable to its own team and its opponent/team for that match.
- (4) When both teams are unable to present themselves to start or continue a match then each club shall be liable for any fees applicable to its own team for that match.
- (5) When a Referee abandons a scheduled match the liability for any fees applicable shall be determined by the Committee on Discipline or the SCM.
- (6) If a scheduled match is postponed or suspended due to adverse weather/playing conditions any fees applicable for that match shall be determined by the appropriate Association/committee.

2.3. PENALTIES

- (1) Penalties may be levied against any Member Club for any infringement of the Rules of the Association, the LOTG, these By-Laws, Competition Rules or for discipline breaches as determined by SCM or the Committee on Discipline.
- (2) All fines and penalties will be invoiced as appropriate.

2.4. WHEN A CLUB BECOMES UNFINANCIAL

- (1) Where a club or affiliated member fails to pay a fee or penalty within fourteen (14) days of the date of the invoice, that club will be deemed to be unfinancial immediately. This By-Law also applies to all invoices issued to clubs for services rendered by affiliates of this Association *e.g.*, Queensland Churches Soccer Referees Association Inc. (QCSRA).
- (2) When a Member Club has been deemed unfinancial, a 10% administration fee on the outstanding amounts may be imposed by SCM.
- (3) In addition, SCM may at their discretion, suspend any one (1) unfinancial club from further competition until all overdue amounts (*e.g.*, fees, bonds or fines) have been paid. The Association's Treasurer or Secretary must receive any overdue amounts by no later than 6 PM, seventy-two (72) hours prior to the scheduled competition to be eligible to immediately re-enter the competition.
- (4) All games not played by a suspended club will be treated as forfeit games by the suspended club. NO FORFEIT PENALTIES/FINES as determined by the Association apply in these instances.
- (5) When an Affiliate Member has been deemed unfinancial, a 10% administration fee on the outstanding amounts will be imposed by SCM.

3. DISCIPLINE & MISCONDUCT

3.1 COMMITTEE ON DISCIPLINE

- (1) The Committee on Discipline chairperson shall be appointed by SCM for twelve (12) months and on behalf of SCM select the other members of the committee required to conduct a hearing. Where possible, the discipline committee chairperson shall be a member of the SCM.
- (2) The Committee on Discipline shall be comprised of up to five (5) persons with a minimum of three (3) including the chairperson of the Committee on Discipline. The chairperson of the Committee on Discipline may select any persons considered competent for the task required. One representative from the referees Association shall be invited to hearings when required, in an advisory capacity only. No participant of the committee except the referees' Association representative shall be associated with a club or organisation involved in the matter to be adjudicated by the committee.

3.2 LAWS OF THE GAME

Players shall abide by the LOTG of football (Soccer) as laid down by IFAB and its sub-committees and set out in the latest issue of the referee's chart, disciplinary code and the players guide to LOTG, and as altered, amended or supplemented by the QCSA from time to time.

3.3 POWERS

The Committee on Discipline shall have, in addition to its other powers, the power to:

- (1) Call before the Committee on Discipline cases of misconduct by any person, player/s, coach/es, manager/s, club official/s, team/s, spectator/s and person/s.
- (2) Impose suspensions as decided by the Committee on Discipline, after deliberation of all evidence presented to the committee.
- (3) Penalize a player by imposing a suspended sentence for a period to be determined by the Committee on Discipline.
- (4) Make representations to the SCM, on matters the Committee on Discipline considers appropriate, to enforce such action that may fall outside these By-laws.
- (5) Investigate and correct any information contained within any correspondence received by the Committee on Discipline.

3.4 DISCIPLINE NOTIFICATIONS

- (1) The Committee on Discipline chairperson will communicate to all parties, via their respective club or Association Secretary, or club nominated discipline contact person any requests to attend hearings, penalties and/or suspensions and any other matters pertaining to the performance of the Committee on Discipline's duties.
- (2) Automatic penalties will be communicated electronically to the relevant club or Association Secretary or club nominated discipline contact person.
- (3) All suspensions and/or penalties handed down by the Committee on Discipline will be communicated in writing within 48 hours of decision where possible.
- (4) Where notification is not confirmed electronically, a telephone call to the club or Association Secretary or club nominated discipline contact person will be made. In all cases, when notification is made to the club Secretary or club nominated discipline contact person it is accepted that communication is made with the player/team and any other relative parties.
- (5) The Committee on Discipline will notify the appropriate QCSA designated Officers of any suspensions and or penalties handed down by the Committee on Discipline that affects the running or results of any fixture or competition.

3.5 CARD OFFENCES

- (1) When a player is shown a yellow or red card by the referee during a match then the player shall be assumed to have committed the offence. A player that is shown a red card in any competition round is not permitted to play in any other matches in the same competition round. This shall not form any part of a suspension/penalty issued by the Committee on Discipline.
- (2) Cards are issued for each varying offence that is committed. A list is held and maintained by the QCSA Committee on Discipline chairperson in consultation with the QCSRA. Any player so named by the referee shall be dealt with by the Committee on Discipline.

3.6 RED CARD OFFENCES

- (1) A player sent from the field of play will automatically be suspended for one (1) game. Suspensions shall apply to the player's next scheduled fixture round. The player, having served the one (1) game suspension, shall be eligible to resume playing, unless notified by the Association that further disciplinary action is being applied.
- (2) If the offence for which a player has been sent off for can be dealt with under the context of the automatic penalties guidelines, the Committee on Discipline shall be able to apply this penalty. The Discipline Automatic Penalty Guidelines have been included into Appendix C.
- (3) If the referee's sendoff/misconduct report recommends a one (1) match penalty and the Committee on Discipline agrees with this decision, then the discipline chairperson is to apply this penalty under the automatic penalty system.
- (4) If the referee's sendoff/misconduct report recommends a one (1) match penalty and the Committee on Discipline disagrees then the Committee on Discipline chairperson is to:
 - (a) Apply an automatic penalty in line with the offence committed and consistent historic rulings, or
 - (b) Conduct a Hearing
- (5) If the referee's sendoff/misconduct report recommends more than a one (1) match penalty and the Committee on Discipline agrees then the Committee on Discipline chairperson is to:
 - (a) Apply an automatic penalty in line with the offence committed and consistent historic rulings, or
 - (b) Conduct a Hearing.
- (6) If the referee's sendoff/misconduct report recommends more than a one (1) match penalty and the Committee on Discipline disagrees then the Committee on Discipline chairperson can apply an automatic one (1) week penalty in keeping with consistent historic rulings.

3.7 YELLOW CARD OFFENCES

- (1) When a player has been shown a Yellow Card the match official will record it against the player's name on the match card and report the issuing of the card to the discipline committee via the match report.
- (2) It is the club's responsibility to monitor and advise their players of any pending suspensions resulting from further yellow cards. Each club has access to their own players yellow cards through the MCM system, which they can check at any time.
 - (a) Any player who received three (3) Yellow Cards in any one season shall be dealt with by the automatic penalty for such an offence and a notice will be sent to the club, whose responsibility it is to INFORM the player and enforce the penalty.
 - (b) Any player who receives five (5) Yellow Cards in any one season shall be dealt with by the automatic penalty for such an offence and a notice will be sent to the club, whose responsibility it is to INFORM the player and enforce the penalty.

- (c) Any player who receives seven (7) Yellow Cards in any one season shall be dealt with by the automatic penalty for such an offence and a notice will be sent to the club, whose responsibility it is to INFORM the player and enforce the penalty. The discipline committee will also review player record and MAY call the player in to show cause why the player should be allowed to continue to be registered in the QCSA.
- (3) Yellow cards cannot be appealed after they are issued and/or reported to the Committee on Discipline chairperson.
- (4) Accumulated yellow cards do not carry forward from one season to the next.
- (5) For the avoidance of doubt, if a player receives two (2) yellow cards in one match it is treated as a red card offence only and the two (2) yellow cards do not count towards the player's accumulated yellow cards for the season.
- (6) A temporary dismissal is when a player commits a cautionable (YC) offence and is punished by an immediate 'suspension' from participating in the next part of that match. The philosophy is that an 'instant punishment' can have a significant and immediate positive influence on the behaviour of the offending player and, potentially, the player's team. Temporary dismissals apply to all players (including goalkeepers) but not for cautionable offences (YCs) committed by a substitute or substituted player.
 - (a) The referee will indicate a temporary dismissal by showing a yellow card (YC) and then clearly pointing with both arms to the temporary dismissal area (usually the player's technical area);
 - (b) The length of the temporary dismissal is the same for all offences. The length of the temporary dismissal should be between 10–15% of the total playing time (e.g. 10 minutes in a 90-minute match; 8 minutes in an 80-minute match). The temporary dismissal period begins when play restarts after the player has left the field of play. The referee should include in the temporary dismissal period any time 'lost' for a stoppage for which 'additional time' will be allowed at the end of the half (e.g. substitution, injury etc...);
 - (c) Once the temporary dismissal period has been completed, the player can return from the touchline with the referee's permission, which can be given while the ball is in play. The referee has the final decision as to when the player can return;
 - (d) A temporarily dismissed player cannot be substituted until the end of the temporary dismissal period;
 - (e) If a temporary dismissal period has not been completed at the end of the first half (or the end of the second half when extra time is to be played) the remaining part of the temporary dismissal period is served from the start of the second half (start of extra time);
 - (f) A player who is still serving a temporary dismissal at the end of the match is permitted to take part in kicks from the penalty mark (penalties);
 - (g) A temporarily dismissed player should remain within the technical area (where one exists) or with the team's coach/technical staff, unless 'warming up' (under the same conditions as a substitute).

3.8 WRONG PLAYER CITED

If it is found that the wrong player has been cited by the referee, then: -

- (a) If a mistake was made by the appointed referee by citing the wrong player's name from the match card, then the referee's Association will be requested to deal with the referee concerned, and report to the SCM their action taken. The Committee on Discipline will deal with the player who should have been cited.
- (b) If the referee did not make a mistake and the player's jersey number did not match the number on the match card against the name, then the player's club may be fined or penalized as determined by the By-Laws.

3.9 IMPOSED PENALTIES

Penalties imposed on players by the Committee on Discipline shall be served as follows:

- (a) Penalties imposed on players by the Committee on Discipline shall apply to all competition matches organized by the Association, and any suspensions shall carry forward from one season to the next.
- (b) Suspensions and/or penalties imposed at discipline hearings are immediate, pending written confirmation from the Committee on Discipline chairperson to the club Secretary.
- (c) Suspensions and/or penalties are to be served in the competition that they are received in unless the player's team is no longer involved. Should this be the case then the suspension will be served in the next sanctioned QCSA fixture.
- (d) When a player is suspended by the Committee on Discipline, the player is suspended for the full fixture round.
- (e) Players currently suspended will be deemed ineligible to play in any other QCSA competition or competition that QCSA partakes in, should they have more than two (2) games to serve of their suspension.
- (f) Officials currently suspended will be deemed ineligible to partake in any other QCSA competition or competition that QCSA partakes in, should they have more than two (2) games/weeks to serve of their suspension.

3.10 HEARINGS

- (1) The Committee on Discipline chairperson has the right to call parties to a hearing at times where it is necessary to adjudicate on any matter under their control. When a hearing is called, adequate notification is to be communicated to all relevant parties.
- (2) If the player, club or referee, do not wish to attend, then they need take no further action and the Committee on Discipline will deal with the offence in the player's absence. If the player or club fails to attend a hearing, then all rights of appeal by the absent party are forfeited.
- (3) All parties that attend a hearing have rights to appeal the decision of the Committee on Discipline adjudicating on each case.

3.11 OBJECTIONS

- (1) An objection is a disagreement with the process of the Committee on Discipline not the decisions of the Committee on Discipline. The latter is covered in By-Law 4.
- (2) Should a player disagree with the issuing of a red card, notice of the objection in writing is to be given to the Committee on Discipline chairperson within forty-eight (48) hours of the player having been sent from the field. Such notification is to include the grounds for objection. If an objection is received with regards to the issuing of a red card, then this is to be dealt with in the first instance. The decision reached by the Committee on Discipline will be final and no right of appeal exists.
- (3) A player that receives an automatic penalty of one (1) fixture or competition round may object to the decision of the Committee on Discipline. Objections must be sanctioned by the player's club and received in writing within forty-eight (48) hours of the original notification of suspension. The decision reached will be final and no right of appeal exists.
- (4) A player that receives an automatic penalty of more than one (1) fixture or competition round may object to the decision of the Committee on Discipline. Objections must be sanctioned by the players club and received in writing within forty-eight (48) hours of the original notification of suspension. A discipline hearing will be conducted in all cases of objection under this By-law.

3.12 FINDINGS

All findings not otherwise restricted, will be subject to appeal by either the player/team or the referee/referee's Association.

3.13 BYES & FORFEITS

A bye or when the player's team forfeits will not count as a fixture round. If the player's team is not playing, the suspension is the next round the player's team plays in. In cases where it is deemed that an abandoned match is caused by the players' team, the Committee on Discipline chairperson will adjudicate on whether a suspension has been completed or served.

4. PENALTIES, APPEALS AND DISPUTES

4.1. THE COMMITTEE

- (1) The Committee on Appeals and Disputes shall deal with all appeals by players to the findings of the Committee on Discipline or the Executive.
- (2) The Committee on Appeals and Disputes shall deal with all appeals by teams to the findings of the Committee on Discipline or the Executive and shall be the first body of the Association to deal with all matters relating to disputes between all Member Clubs/teams brought before it by SCM.
- (3) The Committee on Appeals and Disputes shall deal with all appeals by clubs to the findings of the Committee on Discipline or the Executive and shall be the first body of the Association to deal with all matters relating to disputes between all Member Clubs brought before it by SCM.
- (4) The Committee on Appeals and Disputes shall deal with all appeals by Associations to

the findings of the Committee on Discipline or the Executive.

4.2. LODGING OF APPEALS

Appeals must be lodged with SCM verbally through the Secretary within forty-eight (48) hours following notification of the decision, written confirmation must follow within ninety-six (96) hours. Such appeals must include a statement of new evidence being the grounds on which the appeal is lodged. If a player/club fails to attend a hearing, then all rights to appeal are forfeited.

All appeals must be accompanied by a fee (to be determined each year at the AGM) which may be refunded if it is determined by the SCM that the appeal has been justified.

4.3. CHANGING OF PENALTIES

The Appeals and Disputes Committee has the authority of the Association to change the penalties set by the Committee on Discipline or the Executive if it feels that an injustice has occurred.

4.4. MAKE-UP OF COMMITTEE

- (1) The Committee on Appeals and Disputes shall comprise, if possible not less than five (5) persons considered competent for the work required and elected to the Committee by the SCM. No person comprising part of the Committee on Discipline or the Executive shall also take part in the activities of the Committee on Appeals and Disputes.
- (2) The five (5) members shall be chosen by SCM, one (1) from SCM to act as Chairman and having a casting vote only. Four (4) from the council, provided that not more than two (2) of the whole panel shall be active in the affairs of any one (1) Member Club and provided also, that the persons on any panel shall not have sat in judgment of the action on which the appeal is lodged. One (1) representative from the Referees Association shall be included in an advisory capacity only. No participant of the committee, except the Referees Association Representative, shall be associated with a club and /or Organisation involved in a dispute to be adjudicated by the panel.

4.5. REPORTING OF FINDINGS

The Committee shall report its findings in writing to the SCM through the Secretary and to the affected Club and shall include appropriate reasons for such findings.

4.6. COMMITTEE DECISIONS

The decision of this Committee, on matters previously adjudicated by the Committee on Discipline as governed by the By-Law 3, are final and no avenue of appeal exists.

4.7. APPEALS AGAINST FINDINGS

Appeals by Members or Associate Members against the findings of the Committee on Disputes involving matters not previously dealt with by the Committee on Discipline, may be made to the Council of the Association whose determination shall be final. Notice of all such appeals must be lodged in writing with the Secretary of the Association within two (2) weeks of the findings of the Committee having been received from the Secretary of the Association in writing. Notices of appeal must contain a statement of new evidence being the grounds on which the appeal is lodged.

5. ZONES

- a. The purpose of QCSA Zones is to promote representative football, such as competing at State Titles and selection of players for QLD National teams.
- b. Zones are accountable to QCSA by coming under the QCSA jurisdiction.
- c. Once a new club is approved by SCM they will be allocated to a zone. Only COC can change clubs to another zone or change number/style/make up of zones.
- d. Each Zone will form/select their own Zone Committee (and elect a chairperson) and shall comprise of clubs within that Zone, with each club entitled to 2 (two) voting representatives. If a club does not have any representatives present, they lose their ability to vote at that meeting.
- e. All elected positions will be held for twelve (12) months within their Zone.
- f. The Chairperson of each Zone shall, by their office, be accountable to a member of the SCM, and report what is happening at their committee meetings (including financial records) and within their Zone.

6. INTOXICATING LIQUOR, TOBACCO & ILLICIT DRUGS

No intoxicating liquor, tobacco or illicit drugs shall be consumed on or near the field of play.

7. GENERAL RULES

CLUBS WITH SENIOR TEAMS ONLY

Clubs with only senior teams in our Association are required to foster the setting up of junior teams in their Club within our Association. QCSA needs to be presented with a documented plan within 2 years of joining, with how the club will foster juniors and be held accountable to. Exemptions can be applied for on a case by case basis, by 2018 existing clubs to SCM for consideration by COC

APPENDIX A – STRIPS & COLOURS

- (A) All clubs shall be required to register two (2) to four (4) specific colours with SCM. Clubs must be specific with their colours *i.e.*, Green and Blue is unacceptable. Bottle Green and Royal Blue is required.
- (B) Club strips may entail any style or version of the registered colours provided that all registered colours are used and no other is included. This means that clubs could have a different style strip for different teams incorporating the registered colours.
- (C) Club shorts and socks must be registered with SCM but are not considered part of the strip for this Appendix.
- (D) Any existing club wishing to change one or more of their registered colours must make submission to SCM. If SCM agrees, it will be taken to the next COC meeting for approval before the change is accepted.
- (E) Existing clubs can put change submissions in at any time, but changes will not take effect until the following season. SCM must receive submissions for the following season by the September meeting. Any submissions after that deadline will not be considered for the following season.
- (F) Existing clubs changing colours have a maximum of three (3) years to change all strips over to the new colours. In that time both sets of colours will be accepted.
- (G) New clubs coming into the competition will have colour / strip approved by SCM after consultation with existing clubs that have a registered colour that clashes with the proposed strip.
- (H) As clubs will be able to register a variety of styles and designs using the registered club colours the REVERSE strip will be considered a style or design in registered club colours that is different to the regular strip the TEAM plays in.

An ALTERNATE strip is a strip specifically registered for the CLUB for the purposes of providing contrasting colors for HOME games where the referee requests a change of strip due to similarity of colours.

- (I) At the start of each season, each club will be issued with a list of clashing strips by SCM/Development/Fixture Committee. Clubs with clashing strips must confer with the referee prior to the commencement of the game to ensure the referee is satisfied that there is sufficient contrast between the teams. If a change is requested the HOME club may offer a REVERSE strip. If that does not provide sufficient contrast an ALTERNATE strip must be worn.
- (J) The QCSRA may recommend to SCM that extra teams are added to the list of clashing strips. SCM may make changes through the season if warranted.

APPENDIX B – SPONSORSHIPS

Sponsors are organizations/business/individuals who contribute financially, physically or by other means to offset costs directly to clubs and Zones and are visible to players and spectators through signage on playing uniforms or grounds under the direct control of the club or Zone. It excludes brand and product names *i.e.*, Covo, Streets.

- (A) Sponsors on strips and shorts are allowed on the front and sleeves only. Anywhere else is expressly forbidden except clubs with previous approval under prior rules for the life of that strip. The size and style of the logo or wording must also be approved by SCM. Any logo / picture that change the major colour of the jersey will not be accepted. Clothing brand logos are not considered sponsors.
- (B) All sponsors other than those in point A above, are to be submitted to SCM to ensure they meet QCSA principles. Size and placement of logo's / signs are at club discretion, subject to other authorities approvals as necessary, and do not interfere with playing area.

APPENDIX C – DISCIPLINE AUTOMATIC PENALTIES

(A) GENERAL INFORMATION

The QCSA discipline committee is delegated to handle all send offs and caution reports that are received from the referees as well as any other matter referred to them by SCM. The QCSA Discipline process outlines how things happen, whilst the QCSA Discipline procedures deal with what a player can expect by way of penalty / suspension for their actions.

(B) DISCIPLINE GUIDELINES

After receiving an official report of any incident, the discipline committee has the power to:

- (1) Apply an automatic penalty as outlined below.
- (2) Organise a discipline hearing to discuss the incident, and work to the guidelines shown in this document in deciding the outcome and relevant penalty.
- (3) In certain extreme cases the QCSA may choose not to impose a penalty for a player that is sent off. In these cases the discipline will refer reports to the executive for ratification.

(C) AUTOMATIC SUSPENSIONS

After receiving an official report of any incident, the discipline committee has the power to apply the following automatic penalties:

Automatic One Match Suspension

- A11 Accumulation of three (3) or more issued Yellow Cards.
- A12 Foul and Abusive Language and/or Gestures considered “Low-Level” and inappropriate.
- A13 Persistent infringement after receiving a caution.
- A14 Single offence involving the denial of a goal scoring opportunity.
- A15 Where a referee has recommended a one (1) match penalty and the discipline committee agrees after reading the corresponding report.

Automatic Two Match Suspension

- A21 Accumulation of five (5) or more issued Yellow Cards.
- A22 Foul and Abusive Language and/or Gestures considered “Medium-Level” and inappropriate.
- A23 Violent Charging of an opponent.
- A24 Dangerous Tackle of an opponent from behind.
- A25 Over the ball tackle whilst contesting the ball.
- A26 Pushing and shoving with intention to fighting an opponent.
- A27 Retaliation to pushing and shoving with intention to fighting an opponent.
- A28 Verbal threats made to harm or threaten opposition players.
- A29 Other actions deemed not in keeping with the spirit of participating in the game in a

safe Christian environment.

Automatic Three Match Suspension

- A31 Accumulation of seven (7) or more issued Yellow Cards.
- A32 Fighting with an opponent.
- A33 Single punch thrown at the body of an opponent.
- A34 Foul and Abusive Language or Gesture directed at a match official after being shown a Red Card.

(D) HIGHER PENALTIES

In deciding an automatic penalty, after reading and interpreting the referee's report the discipline committee will in all cases apply a penalty that applies to the highest offence committed. (*i.e.*, IN SIMPLE TERMS a player that is sent off for denying a goal scoring opportunity by way of a dangerous tackle from behind, will be handed an automatic penalty of two (2) matches).

(E) FOUL & ABUSIVE LANGUAGE

Foul and Abusive Language reports will be categorized individually into one (1) of three (3) categories (Low level, Medium level and High level). Individual officials and players have a different view of what is considered offensive and what is considered normal. For this reason, the words reported as well as the intensity, audibility, position on the field and who the language is directed at or to will all be considered when deciding which category will be applicable to each incident.

(F) DISCIPLINE HEARINGS

Discipline hearings are held as necessary at Brittain Park, Troughton Road, Coopers Plains or other nominated venue as set by the Discipline Chair. Club Secretaries are notified of hearings that pertain to their members via telephone and/or electronically from the discipline committee chairperson.

(G) SUSPENSION PENALTY GUIDELINES

* These offences can also include Z penalties.

<u>GENERAL OFFENCES</u>	<u>MINIMUM</u>	<u>MAXIMUM</u>
G01 Foul and Abusive Language and/or Gestures considered "High-Level" and inappropriate.*	2 Matches	4 Matches
G02 Deliberately kicking another player.	2 Matches	4 Matches
G03 Head Butting.	3 Matches	8 Matches
G04 Use of elbow to the body of a player.	2 Matches	6 Matches
G05 Use of arm or hand to the body of a player.	2 Matches	4 Matches
G06 Use of elbow to the head of a player.	4 Matches	8 matches
G07 Use of arm or hand to the head of a player.	2 Matches	8 Matches
G08 Grabbing hair.	2 Matches	6 Matches

G09	Spitting at another player.	4 Matches	12 Matches
G10	Indecent Actions or Gestures.*	2 Matches	8 Matches
G11	Invading personal space of an opponent inappropriately.	2 Matches	6 Matches
G12	Invading personal space of a coach, manager or official.	6 Matches	12 Matches
G13	Eye gouging	4 Matches	12 Matches

FIGHTING / STRIKING OFFENCES

		<i>MINIMUM</i>	<i>MAXIMUM</i>
F01	Repeatedly Throwing punches at the body of a player.*	3 Matches	8 Matches
F02	Repeatedly Throwing punches at the head of a player.*	6 matches	1 Year
F03	Punching during a fight (including Retaliation).*	3 Matches	1 Year
F04	Kicking a player during a fight.*	6 Matches	1 Year
F05	Kicking a player on the ground (Including Stomping).*	6 Matches	1 Year
F06	Running from elsewhere (on-field) to join into a fight.*	4 Matches	1 Year
F07	Running from off the field to join into a fight.*	6 Matches	5 Years
F08	Inciting the crowd.*	8 Matches	5 Years
F09	Attacking or fighting with spectators.*	12 Matches	5 Years
F10	Lashing out in any way at an opponent.	6 Matches	1 Year

OFFENCES INVOLVING MATCH OFFICIALS

		<i>MINIMUM</i>	<i>MAXIMUM</i>
M01	Threats to harm match officials or relatives by word or gesture.	1 Year	50 Years
M02	Threats to kill match officials or relatives by word or gesture.	1 Year	50 Years
M03	Physically threatening a match official.	1 Year	50 Years
M04	Manhandling a match official with one hand or open hand	2 Years	50 Years
M05	Manhandling a match official with two hands.	2 Years	50 Years
M06	Spitting at match officials.	8 Weeks	50 Years
M07	Intimidating a match official.	6 Weeks	50 Years
M08	Invading the personal space of a match official.	8 Weeks	50 Years

OTHER OFFENCES

		<i>MINIMUM</i>	<i>MAXIMUM</i>
Z01	Send off not otherwise specified.	1 Week	50 Years
Z02	Bringing the game into disrepute.	4 Weeks	20 Years
Z03	Bringing the Association into disrepute.	8 Weeks	25 Years
Z04	Offences involving spectators.	1 week	50 years
Z05	Offences involving team officials.	1 week	50 years