



**FOOTBALL  
CANTERBURY**

**Football Canterbury Incorporated.  
Judiciary Disciplinary & Appeals Regulations**

**2026**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

- (a) These Regulations are made under section 13 of the FC Constitution and came into operation on 17 March 2014. The Board of Directors has the power under the FC Constitution to amend, delete or add to these Regulations from time to time.
- (b) The Association is responsible for the organisation, promotion and regulation of football in the Region.
- (c) These Regulations are supplementary to the FA National Disciplinary Regulations and the FA Grievance Resolution Regulations.
- (d) For the purposes of these Regulations, a reference to FA in the FA Code of Conduct and the FA Spectator Code of Behaviour will also be a reference to the FC.
- (e) FC reserves the right to deal with any Member in respect of any offences or complaints and other matters not specifically provided for in these Regulations.
- (f) In the case of a Regulation being interpreted in two or more different ways, FC reserves the right to determine which interpretation is valid. Any such determination is final and not subject to appeal.
- (g) If any part of these Regulations is void that part shall be severable and shall not affect the enforceability of the remaining sections of these Regulations.
- (h) Any capitalised terms used in these Regulations shall have the meaning given to them in Schedule 1.
- (i) In these Regulations:
  - i. any use of the words “includes” or words such as “for example” or “such as” do not limit anything else that is included in general speech;
  - ii. “working day” means a day when the offices of FC are ordinarily open for business;
  - iii. any reference to “\$” or “dollars” is to Australian dollars;
  - iv. a reference to a singular includes the plural and vice versa; and
  - v. a reference to any document is to that document as amended, supplemented, varied or replaced from time to time except to the extent expressly prohibited by that document or these Regulations.
- (j) The Schedules form part of these Regulations.

## 2. CORRESPONDENCE, PRESCRIBED FORMS AND MATCH OFFICIAL REPORTS

### 2.1 Correspondence and Prescribed Forms

- (a) All correspondence in relation to any matter under these Regulations must be made electronically and directed to the relevant email addresses set out in Schedule 2.
- (b) All prescribed forms can be located on the Association website by [www.footballcanterbury.com.au](http://www.footballcanterbury.com.au) .

### 2.2 Match Official Reports

- (a) In order to ensure the Association provides an efficient and transparent service to Members under these Regulations, a Match Official must send to the Association Match Official Reports **immediately** after a Match, setting out the following:

- i. any Red Card Offences issued during the Match including the categorisation of Offences (set out in a **Match Official Send Off Report**) (**Prescribed Form 02**); and
  - ii. any serious incidents which took place (set out in a **Match Official Incident Report**) (**Prescribed Form 03**);
- (b) A Match Official must:
- i. complete their Match Official Report independent of any other Match Officials involved in the Match and any potential witnesses;
  - ii. as far as reasonably possible, clearly state what they actually saw and/or heard in relation to the incident(s) and clearly distinguish that from what others told them occurred;
  - iii. as far as reasonably possible, in respect of words spoken by a Participant, record those in the first person using the words actually spoken; and
  - iv. as far as reasonably possible, state how they identified the Participant.
- (b) All Match Official Reports must be sent to [judiciary@footballcanterbury.com.au](mailto:judiciary@footballcanterbury.com.au)
- (c) Match Official Incident Reports should include details concerning any Spectator behaviour.
- (d) For the avoidance of doubt, facts contained in Match Official Reports are presumed to be true and accurate.
- (e) A copy of a Match Official Incident Report which has resulted in a matter being referred to a Body shall be provided by the Association to the relevant Club who has been identified in a Match Official Incident Report and is the subject of such referral.
- (g) A Match Official may seek assistance from a member of a Referees' Body in completing a Match Official Report provided that member was not a Match Official involved in the Match and is not otherwise a witness to the incident(s) the subject of the Match Official Report.
- (h) FC will, within a reasonable period of time following receipt of any Match Official Expulsion Report and/or Match Official Incident Report, provide a copy of same to the Participant's Club (or to the Club, if the Offence has allegedly been committed by a Club). The purpose of doing so is to:
- i. require the Club to submit to the FC details of any Participant (including full name and FA number) referred to but not identified in the Match Official Report, to the extent that the Club is reasonably able to do so;
  - ii. where the Club believes that the person identified in the Match Official Incident Report is not the offender, provide the Club with the opportunity to submit a challenge on the basis of mistaken identity pursuant to section 7.3 (Challenge on the basis of mistaken identity); or
  - iii. require the Club to provide any information requested by FC in relation to an investigation pursuant to section 8.2 (Charges of Misconduct and Disrepute).

### 3. OBJECTIVES

- (a) To ensure that the game of football is played in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

- (b) To ensure that the game of football is played competitively and fairly in accordance with the principles of true sportsmanship.
- (c) To provide an independent, fair and effective system that sets out procedures for the administration and determination of all judiciary, incidents, disciplinary, dispute, grievance and conduct matters involving Members.
- (d) To ensure consistency and transparency of approach are evident and present in all aspects of handling all judiciary, incidents, disciplinary, dispute, grievance and conduct matters involving Members under these Regulations.

#### **4. JURISDICTION**

- (a) These Regulations shall apply exclusively to facilitate the expeditious and fair resolution of:
  - i. Judiciary, incidents, disciplinary, appeals, dispute, grievance and conduct matters in relation to the Association's Competitions;
  - ii. Grievances involving Members of the Association;
  - iii. Any matters the Executive determines, in its absolute discretion, is important to the interests of football in the FC; and
  - iv. Appeals from a Member Appeals Committee (once its internal procedures have been exhausted).
- (b) Each Member shall submit exclusively to the jurisdiction of these Regulations and agrees that until it has exhausted the procedures set out in these Regulations, it will not attempt to resolve any judiciary, incidents, disciplinary, dispute, grievance and conduct matters by recourse to Football NSW under its relevant rules and regulations, FA or a court of law.

#### **5. AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH COMMITTEES AND TRIBUNALS**

- (a) The authority to establish committees and tribunals is vested in the Board of the Association pursuant to section 13 and section 20 of the FC Constitution.
- (b) These Regulations confirm the establishment of the following Bodies:
  - i. Judiciary Committee (**JC**);
  - ii. Disciplinary Tribunal (**DT**); and
  - iii. Appeals Tribunal (**AT**).

#### **6. MEMBERSHIP OF BODIES**

##### **6.1 Appointment of Body Members**

- (a) The Board shall appoint the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of a Tribunal.
- (b) The Executive may, from time to time, appoint members (other than the Chairperson and vice-Chairperson) to sit on a Tribunal.
- (c) The Executive may appoint person(s) to sit on a Tribunal hearing who are not Tribunal Members appointed under section 6.1(b) if in its opinion, the Executive believes a matter requires special attention or expertise.
- (d) The Executive shall appoint the Disciplinary Committee consisting of at least three (3) Disciplinary Committee members.

##### **6.2 Composition of a Body**

- (a) The JC shall comprise of a minimum of three (3) members in compliance with section 20.8 of the FC Constitution in order to make valid decisions under section 7 (Disciplinary Committee).

- (b) A Tribunal shall comprise a minimum of three (3) and maximum of five (5) Tribunal members (including the Chairperson or vice-Chairperson) in order to make a valid Determination under sections 8 (Disciplinary Tribunal) and 9 (Appeals Tribunal).

### **6.3 Qualification of Body Members**

- (a) Each member of a Body shall have:
- i. the ability to exercise independent judgment; and
  - ii. the requisite knowledge and/or experience of football and the Association Rules and Regulations. Some knowledge of Football NSW Rules and Regulations, FA Rules and Regulations is desirable but not essential.
- (b) The Chairperson and vice Chairperson of the Appeals Tribunal shall be either:
- i. a currently admitted or retired legal practitioner who has practiced continuously in NSW for at least 5 years; or
  - ii. a current or retired judicial officer of a New South Wales court or tribunal.

Except where the Executive otherwise determines, a person shall not be appointed to a Body if that person has served in the previous twelve (12) months or is currently a member of the executive committee or board of a Club who has been subject to suspension by the FC for misconduct.

### **6.4 Term**

Tribunal members shall be appointed for a term of twelve (12) months unless he or she has resigned or been removed pursuant to section 6.5 (Resignation and Removal of Body Members).

### **6.5 Resignation and Removal of Body Members**

- (a) A member of a Body may resign by providing notice in writing to the Executive.
- (b) The Executive may remove a member of a Body (but not a Chairperson) at any time in its absolute discretion.
- (c) The Board may remove a Chairperson of a Tribunal at any time provided it has received a written recommendation from the Executive which outlines the reason or reasons for the removal and the relevant Chairperson has had an opportunity to respond in writing to such a recommendation.

### **6.6 Code of Conduct for Body Members**

Upon appointment by the Association, a member of a Body agrees to be bound by and to comply with the Association Code of Conduct applicable to members of a Body.

### **6.7 Conflict of Interest**

- (a) In the event that a member of the Committee has a conflict of interest in relation to a particular incident or matter being decided by the Committee, then it is the responsibility of that member to declare the interest in the determination of that incident or matter and shall remove themselves from deliberations relating to that incident or matter.
- (b) It will be the responsibility of the Chair to ensure any such member does not sit in judgement nor be privy to deliberations of a determination of the incident or matter.
- (c) A Committee member must comply with clause 6.7 (a) and (c).

## **7. JUDICIARY COMMITTEE**

### **7.1 Jurisdiction**

- (a) Subject to section 7.1(b), the Judiciary Committee has jurisdiction to:

- i. issue Suspensions pursuant to clause 20.8 of the Constitution and section 7.2 of these regulations; and
  - ii. rectify a disciplinary decision made by a Match Official pursuant to section 7.3 (Challenging a decision on the basis of mistaken identity in a Match Official Send-Off or Incident Report) and section 7.4 (Challenging a Notice of Suspension – Exceptional Circumstances).
- (b) The Judiciary Committee shall only have jurisdiction to issue a Suspension that is no longer than two (2) calendar years. A Suspension, which is longer than two (2) calendar years may only be issued by a Tribunal.

## **7.2 Determination**

- (a) For the purpose of these Regulations, reference to a player during a match includes a substitute or substituted player.
- (b) A player shall be sent from the field (Red Card) in accordance with the Laws of the Game as prescribed by FIFA.
- (c) At the conclusion of a match the Referee will note the players sent from the field on the **match** sheet and indicate the send-off code beside the player's name.

This shall include if the offence was directed towards a match official or towards another player/spectator etc.

- (d) Clubs who have players sent from the field may have an offer of suspension sent to them, along with a copy of the referees report (except for players sent off for a second yellow card offence) by 5pm Tuesday each week following the match. Midweek games will be as soon as practicable following the fixture.
- (e) All offers of suspension will be based on the prescribed penalties (Table of Offences – Schedule 3) of this document. All offers made by the FC already take into account leniency.
- (f) The Executive must set out Notice of Suspension (offer) which shall be issued by the FC to a participant's club as soon as practicable, wherever possible.
- (g) The suspension issued must only be applied to the Football Activity to which the suspension relates.
- (h) Clubs will have two (2) days to advise that the player will not accept the offer and is requesting a Judiciary Hearing. Failure by the club to respond within two days of the notification will indicate that the club and/or player have accept the offer of suspension.
- (i) If the player requests a Judiciary Hearing and is found guilty of the charge the prescribed penalty will be used as a minimum, the Judiciary Panel may impose more but not less than the Prescribed Penalty. Where the challenge to the suspension offer from the FC is vexation, groundless or fraudulent and has no merit the Judiciary Committee is required to increase the period of suspension.
- (j) The Judiciary Committee has the authority to exonerate a participant (player) where it finds that the offence charge is not proven.
- (k) If the player requests a Judiciary Hearing then the hearing will generally take place on the Tuesday evening the following week at a time and place to be advised. This may be varied by

the FC however the FC must convene the hearing within 7-days of the Tuesday following the match.

- (l) The player or club may also request that the hearing be postponed from the Tuesday; however the hearing must also take place within 7-days of the Tuesday date on which the hearing would have been scheduled. Unless extenuating circumstances apply, the FC shall be the judge as to whether these circumstances apply. The FC may request proof from the club or player for a delay.
- (m) Where a hearing is postponed (as per 7.2 (k) and (l)) the player will be suspended from playing until the hearing is held provided it is held within the 7-day timeframe. Unless extenuating circumstances apply and have been granted.
- (n) Where a player fails to attend a hearing as per the timeframes above, the Judiciary Committee has the power to hear the case ex-parte.
- (o) The Judiciary Committee will sit on Friday evening in circumstances where a player has received more than a one (1) match suspension and requests a hearing and the player's team is playing in a "double round/header" weekend.
- (p) The Judiciary Committee has the power to apply sanctions in the form of Suspension, Bond, Suspended Sentence or other such penalty as deemed appropriate as long as this is in accordance with 7.2 (j).
- (q) A player who has been sent from the field will not participate in any match until the matter is heard at a hearing or if they chose to accept the offer of suspension until such time as the suspension is served.
- (r) Notwithstanding this section 7.2 (Determination), the Judiciary Committee may, in its absolute discretion, refer any matter to the Disciplinary Tribunal pursuant to section 8.4 (referral from the Judiciary Committee) if it considers a matter requires consideration by a Tribunal.
- (t) Unless a Participant has been successful in a claim or appeal of mistaken identity or exceptional circumstances, he or she must continue to serve that Suspension under this section 7.

### **7.3 Challenging a decision on the basis of mistaken identity in a Match Official Send-Off or Incident Report**

- (a) At the end of a Match, the relevant Team Official must confirm with the Match Official(s) that all details, including the attribution of Yellow Cards, Red Cards and/or Expulsions, are correct.
- (b) If the Team Official believes that a Participant has been mistakenly identified on the match sheet by a Match Official as having received a Yellow Card, Red Card and/or been Expelled, the Team Official must submit the necessary dispute in accordance with these Regulations, the Rules of Association, or any other notified procedure immediately after the match.
- (c) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in these Regulations, unless a Team Official has complied with the requirement set out in section 7.3(b), a Participant cannot challenge a Suspension resulting from a Match Official Send-off/Expulsion Report on the basis of mistaken identity.
- (d) Provided section 7.3(b) has been complied with, if a Participant claims that he or she was mistakenly identified in a Match Official Send-off or Incident Report, he or she (or the Participant's

Club on the Participant's behalf) must notify the Judiciary/Disciplinary Committee by submitting the following:

i. **Match Official Send-Off Report:**

**WHAT:**

COMPULSORY: a signed written statement by the Participant who was reported by the Match Official in a Match Official Send Off Report that he or she was not responsible for the Offence and identifying to the best of their knowledge the name of the Participant responsible (**Prescribed Form 04**); AND

OPTION 1: a signed written statement by the Participant who was responsible for the Offence (**Prescribed Form 05**); OR

OPTION 2: a signed written statement from the Club identifying to the best of its knowledge the name of the Participant who was responsible for the Offence (**Prescribed Form 06**).

**WHEN:**

By 4pm the next working day following the completion of the Match.

**HOW:**

Email a signed **Prescribed Form 04** (compulsory) and **Prescribed 05** or **Prescribed Form 06** to [judiciary@footballcanterbury.com.au](mailto:judiciary@footballcanterbury.com.au)

ii. **Match Official Incident Report:**

**WHAT:**

COMPULSORY: a signed written statement by the Participant who was reported by the Match Official in a Match Official Incident Report that he or she was not responsible for the Offence and identifying to the best of their knowledge the name of the Participant responsible (**Prescribed Form 07**); AND

OPTION 1: a signed written statement by the Participant responsible for the Offence (**Prescribed Form 08**); OR

OPTION 2: a signed written statement from the Club identifying to the best of its knowledge the name of the Participant responsible for the Offence (**Prescribed Form 09**).

**WHEN:**

By 4pm Monday following a weekend fixture or the next working day (for mid-week fixtures) following the issuance of the Match Incident Report by the Association to the Club.

**HOW:**

Email a signed **Prescribed Form 07** (compulsory) and **Prescribed 08** or **Prescribed Form 09** to [disciplinary@footballcanterbury.com.au](mailto:disciplinary@footballcanterbury.com.au)

iii. any other evidence which may support the claim for mistaken identity including but not limited to any video or photo evidence.

(e) If the Association does not receive properly completed written statements by the time specified in section 7.3(a)(i) or (ii), the Participant is deemed to have been responsible for the Offence and may, subject to the Judiciary Committee's consideration of the send-off/incident, be issued with a Notice of Suspension.

(f) After considering the evidence, the Judiciary Committee will decide whether the claim for mistaken identity should be rejected or upheld.

- (g) If the Judiciary Committee rejects a claim for mistaken identity, the original decision set out in the Notice of Suspension applies.
- (h) If the Judiciary Committee considers that a rejected claim for mistaken identity had no prospects of success and amounted to an abuse of process, it shall refer the matter to the Association who may charge the Participant and/or the Club for Misconduct pursuant to section 8.2 (Charges of Misconduct and Disrepute).
- (i) If the Judiciary Committee upholds the mistaken identity claim, a Notice of Suspension shall be issued to the appropriate identified Participant, who shall serve the Suspension immediately. The Notice of Suspension issued to the original Participant will be rescinded.
- (j) The decision made by the Judiciary Committee will be conveyed to the Club.
- (k) Participants should note that the time limits set out above are strict. If a participant fails to comply with these time limits, that Participant is deemed to have waived his or her right to challenge the matter under this section 7.3.

#### **7.4 Challenging a Notice of Suspension - Exceptional Circumstances**

- (a) This section 7.4 is intended to apply only in exceptional circumstances. It is envisaged that, in the vast majority of matters, any Suspension set out in a Notice of Suspension will be appropriate and will be applied. The provisions set out in this section are not intended to encourage or lead to the systematic or regular review of standard Suspensions and are reserved for exceptional cases only.
- (b) A Participant (or the Participant's Club on the Participant's behalf) may in very limited circumstances seek to limit the disciplinary consequences of a Suspension by demonstrating to the Judiciary Committee that the circumstances of an incident leading to a Suspension were exceptional, such that the Suspension that has been notified would be clearly and demonstrably excessive.
- (c) Exceptional circumstances means circumstances operating at the time of the Offence and relating to the commission of the Offence and not to the impact, which a sanction may have.

The following **may** constitute exceptional circumstances:

- i. a Participant may have an intellectual or physical disability;
- ii. a Participant has experienced a recent trauma within the family; and
- iii. any other personal circumstance that may have contributed towards a Participant's actions which lead to the Offence being committed.

The following **do not** constitute exceptional circumstances:

- i. the significance or importance to the Participant or his or her Club of the Match in which the Offence was committed;
  - ii. the significance or importance of any Match, Fixture or tournament in which the Participant will be ineligible to participate because of the imposition of a Suspension given within the range in the Table of Offences (Schedule 3);
  - iii. the point in the Match at which the Offence was committed;
  - iv. the conduct, including actions, words or gestures of any Participant during or related to the Match; and
  - v. any disciplinary decision taken or failure to take a disciplinary decision by a Match Official during the Match.
- (d) Any Participant bringing a challenge under this section may not challenge the Offence via mistaken identity under section 7.3.
  - (e) In considering a claim of this type, the Judiciary Committee is concerned with only the question of whether the Suspension should be altered in view of the circumstances of the case. The Judiciary

Committee is not to usurp the role of the Match Official and the correctness of any decision to issue a Red Card shall not be subject to any scrutiny by the Judiciary Committee. As stated in section 7.2(f), a Participant is not eligible to challenge a Suspension where the Judiciary Committee has issued the minimum Suspension.

- (f) If a Participant wishes to lodge a challenge to a Suspension based on exceptional circumstances under this section 7.4, the Participant must submit the following:

**WHAT:**

COMPULSORY: A signed written statement (**Prescribed Form 10**) by the Participant setting out the grounds upon which he or she believes the Suspension set out in the Notice of Suspension should not be applied; AND

OPTION 1: video or photo evidence; AND/OR

OPTION 2: signed written statements by other Members.

**WHEN:**

By 4pm on the next working day after the issuance of a Notice of Suspension by the Association.

**HOW:**

Email a signed **Prescribed Form 10** to [judiciary@footballcanterbury.com.au](mailto:judiciary@footballcanterbury.com.au)

- (g) If the Association does not receive a properly completed and signed written statement and any other evidence prescribed under section 7.4(f) by the time specified in section 7.4(f), the Participant is deemed to have accepted the Suspension and has waived his or her right to challenge the Suspension under this section 7.4.
- (h) The Judiciary Committee may in its absolute discretion request for further additional information from the Association or the Participant prior to making a decision.
- (i) After considering the evidence, the Judiciary Committee will decide whether the challenge is to be rejected or is successful.
- (j) A challenge will only be successful under this section 7.4 where it satisfies the Judiciary Committee that:
- i. the circumstances of the Suspension under review are exceptional; and
  - ii. as a result of the exceptional circumstances the Suspension would be clearly excessive.
- (k) If the Judiciary Committee considers that the rejected challenge had no prospect of success and amounts to an abuse of process, it shall refer the matter to the Association who may charge the Participant and/or the Participant's Club for Misconduct pursuant to section 8.2 (Charges of Misconduct and Disrepute).
- (l) If the Judiciary Committee upholds the challenge, it shall impose such Suspension, if any, as it deems to be appropriate taking into consideration the circumstances of the subject incident, which revised Suspension shall not be subject to any further challenge or appeal.
- (m) The decision made by the Judiciary Committee will be conveyed to the Club.
- (n) Participants should note that the time limits set out above are strict.
- 7.5 Appealing a decision of the Judiciary Committee**
- (a) Subject to section 9.2 (Grounds of Appeal), the decision of the Judiciary Committee in relation to claims of mistaken identity in a Match Official Report (section 7.3) and exceptional circumstances (section 7.4) may be appealed to the Appeals Tribunal pursuant to section 9 (Appeals Tribunal).
- (b) Subject to section 9.2 (Grounds of Appeal), the decision of the Judiciary Committee in relation to severity may be appealed to the Appeals Tribunal pursuant to section 9 (Appeals Tribunal).

- (c) A Participant wishing to appeal a decision to the Appeals Tribunal must submit a Notice of Appeal of a decision of a JC (**Prescribed Form 11**) to [appeal@footballcanterbury.com.au](mailto:appeal@footballcanterbury.com.au) within two (2) working days of the issuance of the decision of the Judiciary Committee to the Club by the Association **and** pay the relevant Application Fee, as per Schedule 4
- (d) Unless there are exceptional circumstances (to be determined by the Executive), the Participant should note that the time limits set out above are strict. If the Association does not receive a Notice of Appeal of a decision of JC **and** an Application Fee by the time specified in section 7.5(b) then the Participant has waived his or her right to appeal the decision of the Judiciary Committee under this section 7.5.

## **8. DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL (DT)**

### **8.1 Jurisdiction**

- (a) The DT will be responsible for hearing and determining:
  - i. charges of Misconduct and Disrepute (section 8.2);
  - ii. Grievances between Members (section 8.3);
  - iii. any other matter the Executive considers important to the interests of football in the Region. Such a decision is to be at the absolute discretion of the Association;
  - iv. any other matter referred by the JC to the DT (section 8.4).
- (b) Where applicable, the relevant Application Fees for matters set out in section 8.1(a) are set out in Schedule 4.
- (c) **Football Canterbury, in its absolute discretion, shall determine and set any applicable Tribunal hearing date solely based on the availability of the required number of Tribunal members (three members). The claimed unavailability of a party on the date determined by Football Canterbury shall not prevent the applicable Tribunal hearing from being held on the date determined by Football Canterbury. It is not open to the parties, or their legal representatives, if leave has been granted by the Tribunal for any party to be legally represented, to request a hearing date that is more than (2) months after the date of the lodgement of the Notice of Response or the Notice of Appeal(as the case may be) with Football Canterbury. The overarching objective is to enable Football Canterbury to provide an informal, prompt, and expedited Tribunal hearing forum for the determination of the Notice of Charge and whether it has been out or not.**

### **8.2 Charges of Misconduct and Disrepute**

- (a) The Board or the Executive may investigate any matter, which in its opinion is relevant to whether or not a charge of Misconduct or Disrepute ought to be laid. Such investigation may be initiated on the basis of a written report or complaint of a Member or on the basis of any other evidence, which in the opinion of the Association is credible.
- (b) Such investigation may be carried out by the Board, or the Executive as it sees fit and Members are required to cooperate fully with the Association in the conduct of that investigation within the timeframe specified in any correspondence issued by the Association. A Member consents that any information provided may be used as evidence in bringing a charge under this section 8.2.
- (c) At any time, the Board or the Executive may determine whether any charge of Misconduct or Disrepute is to be laid and in relation to such charge whether:
  - i. it is to be referred to the DT; or
  - ii. it is to be dealt with in any other manner which the Association deems appropriate,and such determination shall be at the absolute discretion of the Board or the Executive and not be capable of review by any party.

- (d) If a charge has been laid, by the Association it will issue a Notice of Charge against the Member. The Notice of Charge will set out, amongst other things, details of the charge and the requirement for the Member or participant to stand down (see section 13.1 (Interim Suspension Order)). A Member charged must submit a completed and signed Notice of Response and any other supporting evidence (**Prescribed Form 12**) to [disciplinary@footballcanterbury.com.au](mailto:disciplinary@footballcanterbury.com.au) by the time specified in the Notice of Charge.
- (e) A Notice of Response enables the Member charged to select, amongst other things, whether it wishes to:
  - i. plead guilty or not guilty to the charge(s);
  - ii. accept the reports attached to the Notice of Charge;
  - iii. provide written statements or other such evidence; and
  - iv. be represented by a lawyer or support person.
- (f) A Member who pleads guilty in a Notice of Response may be eligible for leniency by a Tribunal in respect of a sanction.
- (g) Members should note that the time limits set out above are strict. Unless there are exceptional circumstances (to be determined by the Executive), if the Association does not receive a properly completed and signed Notice of Response together with supporting evidence by the time specified in the Notice of Charge then the Member has:
  - i. deemed to have pleaded guilty to the charge(s) set out in the Notice of Charge;
  - ii. accepted the reports set out in the Notice of Charge; and
  - iii. deemed to be in contempt of a Tribunal and may be sanctioned pursuant to section 12.15 (Contempt in the face of a Tribunal).

### **8.3 Grievances**

- (a) The Association will only accept a Grievance if sections 8.3(c) and 8.3(d) have been satisfied.
- (b) The Association may in its unfettered discretion decide not to refer to the DT or to dismiss any Grievance, which it determines is a Vexatious Claim.
- (c) Before referring any Grievance to the Association, any Member making a Claim (**Claimant**) or a Complaint (**Complainant**) must write to the other Member involved in the subject matter of the Grievance (**Respondent**) with details of the Claim or Complaint (as the case may require) allowing the Respondent at least seven (7) working days to respond. The Respondent's reply must include reasons for any disagreement with the details of the Claim or Complaint (as the case may require).
- (d) If a response is not received within seven (7) working days of the notice from the Claimant or Complainant referred to in section 8.3(c) or the Claim or Complaint is not otherwise resolved, the Claimant or Complainant may in writing refer the Grievance to the Association in accordance with section 8.3(e).
- (e) In order to refer a Grievance to the Association a Claimant or Complainant must submit a Grievance Form (**Prescribed Form 14**) to [grievance@footballcanterbury.com.au](mailto:grievance@footballcanterbury.com.au) together with the Application Fee (as per Schedule 4) within fourteen (14) working days after the dispatch of the notice referred to in section 8.3(c).
- (f) In the first instance, a Grievance will be dealt with by mediation pursuant to section 11 (Mediation) unless, in its absolute discretion, the Association believes that a Grievance should be referred to a DT immediately.
- (g) Members should note that the time limits set out above are strict. Unless there are exceptional circumstances (to be determined by the Executive), if the Association does not receive a completed and signed Grievance Form by the time specified in section 8.3(e) then the Member has waived his or her right to file a Grievance with the Association.

#### **8.4 Referral from the Judiciary Committee**

- (a) Pursuant to section 7.2(g), the Judiciary Committee may, in its absolute discretion, refer any matter to the DT if it considers the matter requires consideration by a Tribunal.
- (b) If the Judiciary Committee makes a referral, the Association may conduct a further investigation in accordance with section 8.2 (Charges of Misconduct and Disrepute) and subject to any findings the Association may issue the Participant with a Notice of Charge.

#### **8.5 Offences disclosed in Match Official Reports**

- (a) Unless the Executive, in its absolute discretion, determines otherwise, the Disciplinary Tribunal may determine Expulsion Offences disclosed in any Match Official Expulsion Report and Offences disclosed in any Match Official Incident Report in accordance with section 8.5.
- (b) The FC will, within a reasonable time following receipt of any Match Official Expulsion Report and/or Match Official Incident Report, refer that report, the Participant's (or Club's) Disciplinary History (as the case may be) and any other material the FC determines, in its absolute discretion, is relevant to the matter, to the Disciplinary Tribunal and to the Participant's Club, or the Club, as the case may be.
- (c) The FC will convene a Disciplinary Tribunal to hear the matter and will use its reasonable endeavours to ensure that matters are heard within fourteen (14) working days of the Match.
- (d) Despite anything to the contrary contained in these Regulations:
  - i. a Disciplinary Tribunal must comprise a minimum of one (1) and a maximum of three (3) Disciplinary Committee members in order to make a valid Determination under this section;
  - ii. only where there are three (3) Disciplinary Tribunal members hearing a matter must at least one of those members be either the Chairperson(s) or Vice-Chairperson(s) of the Disciplinary Committee in order to make a valid Determination under this section;
  - iii. the Disciplinary Tribunal will use its reasonable endeavours to issue a short oral Determination at the conclusion of any hearing;
  - iv. the Disciplinary Tribunal will use its reasonable endeavours to issue a short written Determination, (Final Determination) with brief reasons for decision within fourteen (14) working days of the completion of any hearing; and
  - v. where a Participant the subject of a Match Official Incident Report is also the subject of a Match Official Send-Off Report arising out of the same Match, the Disciplinary Tribunal will deal with both sets of matters in the same hearing and the Match Official Send-Off Report will not be referred to the Judiciary Committee.
- (e) It is intended that matters referred to the Disciplinary Tribunal pursuant to this section will be dealt with expeditiously. Accordingly, the Disciplinary Tribunal may, in its absolute discretion, refuse to hear evidence from witnesses whose evidence merely confirms evidence already adduced from other witnesses.
- (f) Any appeal from a Determination issued in accordance with this section is to be dealt with in accordance with section 8.8.

#### **8.6 Matters of Importance**

The Executive, in its absolute discretion, may refer any matter it determines, in its absolute discretion, to be important to the interests of football in the Association to the Disciplinary Tribunal for determination.

#### **8.7 Decisions of the DT**

- (a) The DT Determination will be in accordance with majority opinion of the DT members.

- (b) The types of decisions that the DT may issue are set out in the Table of Offences (Schedule 3) and may include (but not limited to) a finding, directive, suspension, banning, fine or such other action as reasonably determined by the DT.
- (c) If a fine is imposed, the DT shall determine the terms of payment.
- (d) Any decision issued under this section 8.5 may be combined.
- (e) Any failure to comply with a Determination of the DT is itself a breach of these Regulations and may be considered in contempt of a Tribunal pursuant to section 12.15 (Contempt in the face of a Tribunal).
- (f) A short oral or written indication of the outcome of the hearing by the DT shall be provided to the parties within five (5) working days of the completion of the hearing. A full written Determination, with reasons given for the decision, will be provided within fourteen (14) working days, if requested by a party in writing.
- (g) Unless otherwise specified in these Regulations or by the Disciplinary Tribunal in a DT Determination, the imposition of a sanction has immediate effect.
- (h) All Determinations of the Disciplinary Tribunal remain in force unless reversed by the Appeals Tribunal.

### **8.8 Appealing a decision of the DT**

- (a) The decision of the DT in relation to charges of Misconduct and Disrepute (section 8.2), Grievances (section 8.3) subject to section 9.4 (Appeal from a DT in relation to a Grievance), and referrals from the Judiciary Committee (section 8.4) may be appealed to the Appeals Tribunal pursuant to section 9.
- (b) A Member wishing to appeal a decision of the DT to the Appeals Tribunal must submit the following:
  - i. a completed and signed Notice of Appeal of a decision of a DT (**Prescribed Form 13**) to [appeal@footballcanterbury.com.au](mailto:appeal@footballcanterbury.com.au)
  - ii. any supporting material; and
  - iii. the Application Fee, as per Schedule 4.within seven (7) working days of being issued the decision by the DT.
- (c) Members should note that the time limits set out above are strict. Unless there are exceptional circumstances (to be determined by the Executive), if the Association does not receive the documentation and Application Fee prescribed under section 8.6(b)(iii) by the time specified in section 8.6(b) then the Member has waived his or her right to appeal the decision to the Appeals Tribunal.

## **9. APPEALS TRIBUNAL**

### **9.1 Jurisdiction**

The Appeals Tribunal will be responsible for hearing and determining appeals from the:

- i. Judiciary Committee pursuant to section 7.5 (Appealing a decision of the Judiciary Committee) but subject to section 9.2 (Grounds of Appeal); and
- ii. Disciplinary Tribunal pursuant to sections 8.6 (Appealing a decision of a Disciplinary Tribunal) and 15.3 (Misconduct) but subject to section 9.2 (Grounds of Appeal) and section 9.4 (Appeal from a DT in relation to a Grievance);

### **9.2 Standing to Appeal**

- (a) Despite anything to the contrary contained in these Regulations and for the avoidance of doubt, only the Members set out in this section 9.2 (subject to section 9.3 (Grounds of Appeal)) and the FC have standing to appeal matters to the Appeals Tribunal.
- (b) **An appeal from the Judiciary Committee pursuant to section 7.5 (Appealing a decision of the Judiciary Committee in respect of a challenge):** the Participant who challenged the Judiciary Committee's Suspension pursuant to section 7.3 (Challenging a decision on the basis of mistaken identity in a Match Official Send-off/Expulsion Report) or section 7.4.
- (c) **An appeal from the Disciplinary Tribunal pursuant to section 8.8 (Appealing a decision of a DT in relation to a referral from the Judiciary Committee (section 8.4(b)):** the Participant who challenged the Disciplinary Tribunal's Suspension pursuant to section 7.3 (Challenging a decision on the basis of mistaken identity in a Match Official Send-Off/Expulsion Report) or section 7.4.
- (d) **An appeal from the Disciplinary Tribunal pursuant to section 8.8 (Appealing a decision of a DT in relation to a charge(s) of Misconduct and/or Dispute (section 8.2):** the Member(s) the subject of the charge(s) before that Disciplinary Tribunal but only in respect of the charge(s) against that Member.
- (e) **An appeal from the Disciplinary Tribunal pursuant to section 8.8 (Appealing a decision of a DT in relation to a Grievance (section 8.3):** the Member(s) (including any Affected Party) who appeared before that Disciplinary Tribunal.
- (f) **An appeal from the Disciplinary Tribunal pursuant to section 8.8 (Appealing a decision of a DT in relation to Offences disclosed in Match Official Reports (section 8.5):** the Member(s) the subject of the Match Official Report.
- (g) **An appeal from the Disciplinary Tribunal pursuant to section 8.8 (Appealing a decision of a DT in relation to a matter referred to the Disciplinary Tribunal by the Executive pursuant to section 8.6 (Matters of importance):** the Member(s) who appeared before that Disciplinary Tribunal.
- (h) **An appeal from a Member Appeals Committee pursuant to section 9.6 in relation to a disciplinary matter:**
  - i. the Member(s) the subject of the charge(s) before the Member Appeals Committee but only in respect of the charge(s) against that Member;
  - ii. if applicable, any Match Official who officiated in the match giving rise to the charge(s) or the relevant Referees Body but only if the Executive, in its absolute discretion, determines that it is in the interests of football in the FC for the appeal to be heard by the Appeals Tribunal;
  - iii. the victim(s) in the incident that gave rise to the charge(s) before the Member Appeals Committee but only if the Executive, in its absolute discretion, determines that it is in the interests of football in the FC for the appeal to be heard by the Appeals Tribunal; and
  - iv. the Member who laid the original charge(s) but only if the Executive, in its absolute discretion, determines that it is in the interests of football in the FC for the appeal to be heard by the Appeals Tribunal.
- (i) **An appeal from a Member Appeals Committee pursuant to section 9.6 in relation to a grievance or a matter not contemplated by section 9.2(g):** the Member(s) who appeared before the Member Appeals Committee and, subject to section 12.4(d), any Affected Party.

### 9.3 Grounds of Appeal

The sole grounds of an appeal to the Appeals Tribunal are:

- (a) Failure to afford procedural fairness;
- (b) lack or excess of jurisdiction;
- (c) the decision of the Body was affected by actual bias;

- (d) the decision was one that was not reasonably open to the Body having regard to the lack of evidence before the Body (Insufficient Evidence);
- (e) incorrect interpretation of the Association Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations, or Policies; or
- (f) severity, only where the decision of the Body imposed a sanction of at least:
  - i. a Fixture Suspension of six (6) or more Fixtures; or
  - ii. a Time Suspension of three (3) or more months; or
  - iii. a Fine of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) or more; or
  - iv. a Loss of six (6) or more Competition points; or
  - v. expulsion from a competition.

#### **9.4 Decisions of the Appeals Tribunal (AT)**

- (a) The AT Determination will be in accordance with majority opinion of the AT members.
- (b) The AT has the power to:
  - i. dismiss, allow in whole or part, or vary (whether by way of reduction or increase) a decision including any sanction or penalty imposed by the Body;
  - ii. impose any sanction, measure or make any order the AT thinks fit or a decision that the Body could have imposed under these Regulations;
  - iii. conduct a fresh hearing of the matter (**hearing de novo**); or
  - iv. remit the matter to the Body or the Member Appeals Committee from which the appeal originated, or to the tribunal (or similar) that dealt with the matter at first instance, for rehearing and issue any directions or orders in relation to the rehearing of the matter that the Appeals Tribunal deems appropriate.
- (c) A failure to comply with a Determination of the AT is itself a breach of these Regulations and may be considered in contempt of a Tribunal pursuant to section 12.15 (Contempt in the face of a Tribunal).
- (d) A short oral or written indication of the outcome of the hearing shall be provided to the parties within seven (7) working days of the completion of the hearing with a full written Determination, with reasons given for the decision, to be provided within twenty one (21) working days, if requested by a party in writing.
- (e) No Determination of the Judiciary Committee or the Disciplinary Tribunal will be quashed or held invalid by the Appeals Tribunal by reason only of any defect, irregularity, omission or other technicality, provided the Appeals Tribunal is satisfied there has not been a miscarriage of justice.

#### **9.5 Appeal from a DT in relation to a Grievance**

- (a) No appeal can be brought from a decision of the DT in relation to a Grievance except with leave from the Appeals Tribunal granted in accordance with this section 9.
- (b) Any Notice of Appeal of a decision of a DT (**Prescribed Form 13**) in relation to a Grievance received by the Association must be referred, within three (3) working days of receipt, to the Chairperson of the AT (or if he or she is not available to the Deputy Chairperson of the AT) for determination as to whether leave should be granted for the Appeal to proceed.
- (c) The Chairperson of the AT shall determine, within seven (7) working days of receipt of a Notice of Appeal referred under section 9.4(b), whether leave to appeal should be granted and the outcome of such determination shall be communicated in writing to the party lodging the appeal within ten (10) working days of the lodging of the Notice of Appeal.

- (d) In determining whether leave to Appeal should be granted (in whole or in part), the Chairperson of the AT shall have regard to:
  - i. the grounds of appeal set out in the Notice of Appeal;
  - ii. whether any obvious error on the part of the DT has been identified;
  - iii. the prospects of success of the appeal; and
  - iv. the nature and significance of the Grievance and the subject of the decision being appealed.
- (e) If the AT decides that leave to appeal should not be granted, it may, in its absolute discretion recommend that all or part of the Appeal Fee should be refunded.
- (f) If leave to appeal is granted, an appeal lodged pursuant to this section shall proceed and be determined in the same manner as all other appeals determined by the AT.

### **9.6 Appeals against a decision of a Member Appeals Committee**

- (a) In addition to the limitations set out under section 9.3 (Grounds of Appeal), the Appeals Tribunal will only hear and determine a matter involving an appeal from a Member Appeals Committee where the matter has proceeded in accordance with and exhausted that Member's own disciplinary/grievance rules and regulations. A party wanting to appeal a decision of a Member Appeals Committee to the Appeals Tribunal must provide documentation, to the satisfaction of FC, to demonstrate that the matter has proceeded in accordance with and exhausted that Member's own disciplinary/grievance rules and regulations before it can be appealed to the Appeals Tribunal.
- (b) If a party wants to appeal a decision of a Member Appeals Committee, it must, within seven (7) working days of being issued the decision:
  - i. pay to FC the relevant Application Fee (as per Schedule 4: Application Fees);
  - ii. pay any award or fine the subject of the decision to the Member;
  - iii. submit to FC a completed and signed Notice of Appeal of a decision of a Member Appeals Committee;
  - iv. submit to FC written copies of the decision of the Member Appeals Committee and of the decision at first instance (if applicable);
  - v. submit to FC evidence that the matter has proceeded in accordance with and exhausted the Member's own disciplinary/grievance rules and regulations;
  - vi. submit to FC a copy of the Member's constitution;
  - vii. submit to FC a copy of the Member's disciplinary/grievance rules and regulations;
  - viii. submit to FC any supporting material, including any additional evidence; and
  - ix. submit to FC any written submissions the party intends to rely on.
- (c) Parties should note that the time limits set out above are strict. Unless there are exceptional circumstances (to be determined by the Executive, in its absolute discretion), if the requirements prescribed under section 9.6(b) are not complied with by the time specified therein, the party is deemed to have waived its right to appeal the decision to FC.

### **9.7 Abandoned Appeals**

An appellant may abandon an appeal prior to any hearing by giving written notice to FC in which case the Application Fee may, in the Executive's absolute discretion, be refunded.

## 10. NO RECOURSE TO COURTS

Any Determination by the AT will 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 in relation to such Determination (other than the limited right of appeal to Football NSW subject to the Football NSW Grievance & Disciplinary Regulations (as amended from time to time)).

## 11. MEDIATION

- (a) In relation to a Grievance between Members pursuant to section 8.3 (Grievances), the Association will require Members to attend a meeting with a representative of the Association and/or an independent person who shall act as a mediator for the purpose of attempting to reach agreement for the resolution of the Grievance.
- (b) The mediator shall be a person who, in the opinion of the Association, is appropriately qualified to conduct the mediation, and may include a member of the Institute of Arbitrators & Mediators Australia or other similar body, or a legal practitioner.
- (c) Unless otherwise determined by the Association, any costs involved in the mediation, including the costs of the Mediator, shall be borne equally by the parties to the Grievance.
- (d) The mediation shall commence within fourteen (14) working days after the submission of a Grievance Form.
- (e) The mediation shall be conducted on a “*without prejudice basis*” and the mediator shall have no power to impose any Suspension, decision or sanction on any of the parties.
- (f) Mediation shall continue for a period no longer than thirty (30) working days.
- (g) Unless agreement has been reached within fourteen (14) working days of the start of the mediation, the Association will refer the matter to the DT in accordance with these Regulations.
- (h) Any failure by a Member to attend mediation convened in accordance with this section when reasonably requested by the Association to do so and without reasonable excuse shall amount to Misconduct. The Association may refer such matters to the DT for determination in accordance with section 8.2 (Charges of Misconduct and Disrepute).

## 12. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES OF TRIBUNALS

### 12.1 Electronic Documents

In order to ensure the efficiency of judiciary and conduct matters, all documents referred to in these Regulations shall be sent by email to the respective addresses set out in Schedule 2 (Prescribed Forms and Email Addresses).

### 12.2 Responsibility of the Association

Where a Tribunal is required to convene a hearing pursuant to sections 8 (Disciplinary Tribunal) or 9 (Appeals Tribunal), the Association shall:

- (a) set a date for the hearing;
- (b) issue a Notice of Proceedings; and
- (c) convene a Tribunal in accordance with these Regulations.

### 12.3 Submissions by a party

- (a) For a DT hearing, a party must provide to the Association a copy of any written submissions, materials, documents or other evidence it intends to rely on in the hearing at the time of submitting a Notice of Response (**Prescribed Form 12**) or by the due date specified in the Notice of Charge.

- (b) For an Appeals Tribunal hearing, a party must provide to the Association a copy of any written submissions, materials, documents or other evidence it intends to rely on in the hearing at the time of submitting a Notice of Appeal.
- (c) All written submissions, materials, documents or other evidence supplied to the Association must be sent to [disciplinary@footballcanterbury.com.au](mailto:disciplinary@footballcanterbury.com.au) or [appeal@footballcanterbury.com.au](mailto:appeal@footballcanterbury.com.au) as the case may be.
- (d) Unless there are exceptional circumstances (to be determined by the Executive), the Association will not accept any late written submissions, materials, documents or other evidence submitted after the time of submitting a Notice of Response or Notice of Appeal.
- (e) All written submissions, materials, documents or other evidence supplied to the Association will be provided to the other parties (including an Affected Party) involved in the hearing.

#### **12.4 Affected Party**

- (a) For the purposes of these Regulations, an Affected Party means:
  - i. a Member who may be affected by a determination of a Body or by the outcome of a mediation based on the relief sought by a Member who has submitted a Notice of Appeal or Grievance Form under these Regulations but subject to section 12.4(d); and
  - ii. FC, if the Executive considers, in its absolute discretion, that the determination of a Body, or the outcome of mediation, may affect the interests of football in the Association, State, Football NSW, or FA or it may bring the game into Disrepute or damage the reputation or goodwill of the game.
- (b) Despite anything to the contrary in section 12.4(a), the victim of an incident giving rise to disciplinary charges or proceedings is not an Affected Party for the purposes of these Regulations.
- (c) A Member submitting a Notice of Appeal or Grievance Form must state whether there is any other Member who may be affected by the decision based on the relief sought.
- (d) If a Member has not identified an Affected Party, a Tribunal may require that any relevant document be given to a Member if it is of the view that the outcome of the hearing may affect the interests of that Member.
- (e) The Association may, in its absolute discretion, consider itself an Affected Party for the purposes of this section 12.4 if it considers that the determination of a matter may affect the interests of the Association or may bring the game into Disrepute or damage the reputation and goodwill of the game.
- (f) An Affected Party provided with notice under this section 12.4 may participate in the hearing as an Affected Party and may make submissions. The Affected Party is bound by any decision.
- (g) If an Affected Party provided with notice elects to not participate in a hearing, that Affected Party cannot subsequently initiate a Grievance under these Regulations in relation to the same subject matter.

#### **12.5 Legal Representation**

A party (including an Affected Party) shall not have the right to a legal representative at a Tribunal hearing. A legal representative may attend the hearing to give guidance and advice to their client, but shall not

address the Tribunal. Unless notice of an accompanying legal representative is sent out in the Notice of Appeal or Notice of Response, an accompanying legal representative shall not be allowed.

A party (including an Affected Party) may apply in writing to the FC for the right to a legal representative where an issue relates to a person's livelihood and/or serious allegation. The FC's decision shall be final.

#### **12.6 Parent/Guardian**

A party must be accompanied at a hearing before a Tribunal by a parent or legal guardian if he or she is under the age of eighteen (18) years.

#### **12.7 Non-attendance**

- (a) If any party or witness who has been properly notified of a hearing fails to attend a Tribunal hearing without showing sufficient cause for such failure, the hearing can proceed ex parte and determined in that party's absence, including as to Determination on the merits and/or sanction. An ex parte Determination of a Tribunal has the same force and effect as if it was made after a full hearing before that Tribunal.
- (b) If any party or witness that fails to attend a Tribunal hearing without exceptional circumstances or sufficient cause, that Member shall be deemed to have committed Misconduct and may be subject to sanction under section 8.2 (Charges of Misconduct and Disrepute).

#### **12.8 Adjournment**

A party may apply in writing to a Tribunal at least two (2) working days before the start of any Tribunal hearing to have the hearing adjourned provided there are compelling circumstances which may warrant an adjournment, including avoiding significant costs, hardship or inconvenience to the party. Any decision to adjourn a hearing will be at the absolute discretion of the Tribunal. Members acknowledge that the Tribunal meets after normal business hours and during the working week. Given the sometimes large number of parties and witnesses involved in a Tribunal hearing and the need to resolve matters in an expeditious manner, it will not always be possible to accommodate adjournment applications.

#### **12.9 Stay of proceedings**

On application by a party (including an Affected Party) or the Association, a Tribunal may order a stay of proceedings (with or without conditions).

#### **12.10 General conduct of Tribunal hearings**

- (a) A Tribunal will not be bound by the rules of evidence usually applicable to proceedings in courts of law. A tribunal shall not be required to act as a court of law or to adopt and follow criminal court procedures in the manner in which it conducts its hearings or makes a determination. Subject to section 12.10 (b) and (c) of these regulations, the Tribunal hearings shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures set out in these Regulations generally.
- (b) All hearings must be conducted in accordance with the principles of natural justice.
- (c) A Tribunal may conduct the hearing in any matter as it sees fit provided that:
  - i. all parties are given a reasonable opportunity to be heard;
  - ii. the hearing is conducted with as little formality and technicality and with as much expedition as proper consideration of the matters before it permits.
- (d) A Tribunal is empowered to:
  - i. take evidence subject to section 12.10(e). The admissibility and weight to be given to any evidence in a hearing shall be at the discretion of a Tribunal;
  - ii. require the attendance of any Member to give evidence;
  - iii. permit any witnesses to give evidence via telephone or video over internet (for example, via "skype");

- iv. require the production of any document, information or other evidence in whatever form held by any Member;
  - v. inform itself on any matter or thing in order to properly carry out its function in accordance with these Regulations.
- (e) If a Tribunal is not satisfied to the required standard of proof that a charge(s) before it has been proved, but is satisfied that a different charge(s) has been proved, then provided the accused has been given an opportunity to address the Tribunal in relation to the different charge(s), the Tribunal must find the accused guilty of the different charge(s) and apply the appropriate sanction. A Tribunal may, in its absolute discretion, grant an accused an adjournment for the purposes of answering the different charge(s). In accordance with section 12.13, the applicable standard of proof to be applied is the civil standard of proof, namely, on a balance of probabilities, not the criminal standard of proof, namely, beyond a reasonable doubt.
- (f) Unless there are exceptional circumstances (to be determined by the Appeals Tribunal), in determining any appeal under section 9.2(d) or (e) or section 9.4, the Appeals Tribunal shall not consider new evidence to that which was before the body whose decision is being appealed.
- (g) To the extent that a matter relating to the procedures of a Tribunal is not provided for by these Regulations, the Chairperson of a Tribunal may issue appropriate directions for the conduct of any matter or hearing.

#### **12.11 Disclosure of Tribunal members**

In the interests of ensuring independence, the Association shall not disclose the identity of those Tribunal members prior to a hearing to any party.

#### **12.12 Challenge of jurisdiction or of a Tribunal member**

- (a) If a Member wishes to allege that a Tribunal does not have jurisdiction, it must raise this objection in its Notice of Response or Notice of Appeal. A Tribunal has the power to rule on any objection that it has no jurisdiction. In general, a Tribunal should determine any challenge concerning its jurisdiction as a preliminary question. However, a Tribunal may proceed with the hearing and rule on such an objection in its final Determination.
- (b) A Tribunal member may be challenged if circumstances exist that give rise to justifiable doubts as to his or her impartiality or independence. Such a plea must be raised in oral submissions as a preliminary question at the hearing. The Tribunal has the power to rule on this objection and, if the challenge fails, reasons must be provided in the final Determination.

#### **12.13 Standard of proof**

A Body shall make Determinations on the balance of probabilities.

#### **12.14 Costs generally**

- (a) The parties to a Tribunal hearing shall pay their own costs unless the Tribunal determines otherwise.
- (b) In a hearing, the Tribunal may award the costs it considers appropriate on:
- i. the application of a party to the proceeding; or
  - ii. its own initiative.
- (c) In deciding whether to award costs, and the amount of the costs, the Tribunal may have regard to the following:
- i. the outcome of the hearing;
  - ii. the conduct of the parties to the proceeding before and during the hearing;

- iii. the nature and complexity of the hearing;
  - iv. any legal costs incurred by a party (including an Affected Party), a Tribunal or the Association;
  - v. the relative strengths of the claims made by each of the parties to the hearing;
  - vi. any contravention of the FA Rules and Regulations or Football NSW Rules & Regulations or the Association Rules and Regulations by a party to the proceeding; and
  - vii. anything else the Tribunal considers relevant.
- (d) A party to a proceeding is not entitled to costs only because the Tribunal made an order or orders in a party's favour.
- (e) The power of the Tribunal to award costs under these Regulations is in addition to the Tribunal's power to award costs under any other provision of the FA Rules and Regulations and the Association Rules and Regulations.

#### **12.15 Contempt in the face of a Tribunal**

- (a) A person appearing before a Tribunal must not:
- i. insult a member of a Tribunal in relation to the exercise of the powers or functions of the Tribunal;
  - ii. repeatedly interrupt the proceedings of a Tribunal;
  - iii. create a disturbance or take part in creating or continuing a disturbance in or near a place where Tribunal is sitting;
  - iv. fail to comply in full with an order of the Tribunal; or
  - v. Deliberately mislead a Tribunal; or
  - vi. do any other act or thing that would, if a Tribunal were a court of record, constitute a contempt of a Tribunal.
- (b) If a Tribunal considers that a person has breached this section 12.15, then it may impose sanctions as it sees fit in accordance with these Regulations or make recommendations to the Executive to issue a Notice of Charge pursuant to section 8.2 (Charges of Misconduct and Disrepute).
- (c) A Member must comply with a Determination of a Tribunal.
- (d) Parties, their representatives and all witnesses must not use or disclose to any third party any confidential information obtained during the course of any investigations or proceedings.
- (e) If a Tribunal considers that a Member has breached this section 12.15 and/or section 8.2(h), then it may impose sanctions as it sees fit in accordance with these Regulations or make recommendations to the Executive to issue a Notice of Charges pursuant to section 8.2 (Charges of Misconduct and Disrepute).
- (f) If the Executive determines that a Member has breached this section 12.15, section 8.2 8.2(h) and/or section 12.19(b), then it may, in its absolute discretion, charge the Member with Misconduct (section 15.4) and refer the matter to the Disciplinary Tribunal for determination pursuant to section 8.2 (Charges of Misconduct and Disrepute).

#### **12.16 Tribunal may hear proceedings regardless of related criminal or disciplinary action**

A Body may issue Suspensions or make a Determination whether or not a Member:

- (a) has been charged with, convicted of or sentenced for an offence arising out of the contravention;
- (b) is the subject of a pending disciplinary proceedings relating to the contravention; or
- (c) may be, or has been, subject to disciplinary action in relation to the contravention.

#### **12.17 Immunity**

The parties to any charges or proceedings brought under these Regulations, and their respective witnesses, agree not to institute or maintain any proceedings, or bring any claim against the Association, a Body or member of a Body, in respect of any act or omission during the course of a hearing or arising out of any charge, Determination or findings made.

#### **12.18 Correction of a Determination**

Within five (5) working days of the issuance of a Determination, either party (including an Affected Party) to a hearing may submit to [tribunal@footballcanterbury.com.au](mailto:tribunal@footballcanterbury.com.au) a request to correct in the Determination any errors in computation, any clerical or typographical errors or any other error of a similar nature. If the Tribunal considers the request to be justified, it will make the correction and reissue the Determination to the parties.

#### **12.19 Publication and Confidentiality**

- (a) Subject to any term of a Determination imposing confidentiality or any other legal requirements, any Determination or Suspensions may be disclosed on the Association website.
- (b) All evidence and information provided in proceedings of a Tribunal must be treated in the strictest confidence. Parties and their representatives and witnesses must not use or disclose to any third party any confidential information obtained during the course of a hearing.

#### **12.20 Legal advice**

A Tribunal may, in its absolute discretion, seek legal advice prior to or during any hearing and as such is entitled to adjourn the hearing and/or prior to giving its Determination.

#### **12.21 The Association staff**

The Association staff shall not be required to provide evidence at a hearing (whether oral or written) unless the Association is an Affected Party to a hearing or a Tribunal considers otherwise.

### **13. SUSPENSION ORDERS**

#### **13.1 Interim Suspension Orders**

- (a) Where a Member has been charged by the Association in relation to an alleged act of Misconduct (see section 8.2 (Charges of Misconduct or Disrepute)) or with a criminal offence in connection with disciplinary action pursuant to these Regulations, the Executive shall have the power to order that a Member be suspended, pending determination of such a matter, from all or any specific Football Activity for such period and on such terms and conditions as the Executive considers fit (an “**Interim Suspension Order**”).
- (b) The period of an Interim Suspension Order shall not be capable of lasting beyond the date upon which any charge of Misconduct or criminal offence or other disciplinary proceedings referred to in section 13.1(a) above is decided or brought to an end.

#### **13.2 Suspension for serious criminal charges and offences**

The Executive shall have the power to order that a Member be suspended from all or any specific Football Activity for such period and on such terms and conditions as it considers fit where the Member has been charged or convicted of a criminal offence and where the Executive considers there is a risk of harm to another Member.

#### **13.3 Suspension following disqualification from working with children**

Where a Member is prohibited under child protection legislation from regulated activity relating to children, the Executive shall have the power to order that the individual be suspended immediately from all or any specific Football Activity for such a period and on such terms and conditions as it sees fit.

### **14. SERVING OF SUSPENSIONS**

#### 14.1 Application of Suspensions and Determinations

Upon the issuance of a Suspension or Determination by a Body, the Executive has the obligation to ensure that the Suspension or Determination is applied correctly in accordance with this section 14 and any other directive imposed by the Executive from time to time. Such decision shall be final and not subject to appeal.

#### 14.2 Suspensions to be served immediately

- (a) Subject to this section 14, any Suspension or Interim Suspension Order imposed by the Association or a Body shall be served immediately. In serving a Suspension or Interim Suspension Order, a Member must take into consideration any fixtures or time already served whilst awaiting the issuance of the Notice of Suspension or Determination and shall apply in respect of those Football Activities listed in the Notice of Suspension or a Determination.
- (b) A Member does not need to be registered to serve any Time Suspension but does need to be registered to serve a Fixture Suspension.
- (c) Team Officials being sent-off or expelled from the technical area during a Match are eligible to play as a Player in a Match scheduled in the same round unless otherwise determined by the Association or a Body.
- (d) A Player being sent-off or expelled from the technical area during a Match are eligible to be a Team Official in the technical area in a Match scheduled in the same round unless otherwise determined by the Association or a Body.

#### 14.3 Club Responsibility on Suspensions and Match Sheets

- (a) The relevant Club shall be responsible for ensuring a Member is suspended in accordance with any Notice of Suspension or Determination.
- (b) Clubs must ensure any Player or Official who is registered with or by that Club and who is serving a Suspension is listed as suspended in the electronic match sheet or listed in an appropriate place on any team sheet (where applicable) prior to being completed.

#### 14.4 Fixture Suspensions and Time Suspensions

- (a) A Body may issue Suspensions either in terms of the number of Fixtures for which a Participant shall be suspended (**Fixture Suspension**) or the amount of time for which a Participant shall be suspended (**Time Suspension**).
- (b) Member does not need to be registered to serve a Time Suspension. Subject to section 14.4(c), or unless the FC has determined otherwise in its absolute discretion, a Member must be registered to serve a Fixture Suspension.
- (c) A Participant subject to a Fixture Suspension as a Spectator only does not need to be registered to serve a Fixture Suspension.

#### 14.5 Time Suspensions

- (a) A Time Suspension affects a Participant's participation in eleven-a-side football, futsal and summer football, regardless of whether the infringement was committed in an eleven-a-side football, futsal or summer football Match.
- (b) Upon issuing a Time Suspension, a Body must provide a start date and end date for the Suspension.
- (c) Unless a Body determines otherwise, but subject always to section 14.5(a), a Participant issued with a Time Suspension is ineligible to participate in all Football Related Activities for the duration of the Suspension.
- (d) Football Related Activities include, but are not limited to:

- i. taking the Field of Play (or court) as a Player or Match Official in any match or competition sanctioned or administered by Football NSW, FC, Clubs, Centres, Association Members or their clubs;
- ii. taking a position as a coach, Team Official or Club Official in any match or competition sanctioned or administered by Football NSW, FC, Clubs, Centres, Association Members or their clubs;
- iii. entering the Field of Play (or court), its surrounds, the Technical Area, players race, dressing rooms or any other place within a venue on a match day where players, coaches or Officials are likely to assemble to prepare for a match;
- iv. taking part as a player, coach, Team Official or Club Official in any training session conducted by or for a team or club participating in any matches or competitions sanctioned or administered by Football NSW, FC, Clubs, Centres, Association Members or their clubs;
- v. acting in any way as a Team Official, Club Official or Association Member Official, including, but not limited to, participating in or carrying on any function as a member of a committee, sub-committee or board of directors (whether paid, voluntary or honorary) at any level;
- vi. having any contact with the Host Broadcaster or any other media whether the purpose of such contact is for it to be electronically broadcast to the public, including (but not limited to) participating in any post-match press conference and participating in television or radio interviews;
- vii. attending any function or event coordinated, conducted or sanctioned by Football NSW and FC; and/or
- viii. entering a stadium, venue, ground or Centre during any match, competition or training sessions sanctioned or administered by the FC or their clubs.

#### **14.6 Fixture Suspensions**

- (a) A Fixture Suspension imposed on a Player participating in:
  - i. eleven-a-side football only affects that Participant's participation in eleven-a-side football; or
  - ii. Summer Competition only affects that Participant's participation in summer competition.
- (b) A Participant subject to a Fixture Suspension resulting from or related to any Premiership, Championship, Cup, **Tournament, Australia Cup or Sapphire Cup** Fixture must serve that Suspension in the next Premiership, Championship, Cup **Tournament, Australia Cup or Sapphire Cup** Fixture(s) in which that Participant's Team or Club plays in, whichever occurs first, until that Suspension is served in full. A Participant **cannot** serve such a Suspension in a Trial Match, Tournament, any Pre-Season Competition, any Football NSW Representative Match, any competition, event or tournament conducted by another Member Association of FNSW or any other match/fixture.
- (c) A Participant subject to a Fixture Suspension resulting from or related to any Football NSW Representative Match (for example, Football NSW State Titles) must serve that Suspension in the next consecutive Fixture(s) (be that a Football NSW Representative Match, Premiership,

Championship, Cup **Tournament, Australia Cup or Sapphire Cup** Match/Fixture) in which that Participant's Team or Club plays in, whichever occurs first, until the Suspension is served in full. A Participant **cannot** serve such a Suspension in a Trial Match, Tournament or Pre-Season Competition.

- (d) A Participant subject to a Fixture Suspension resulting from or related to any Trial Match, Pre-Season Competition or Tournament must serve that Suspension in the next consecutive Trial Match, Pre-Season Competition, Tournament, Premiership, Championship, Cup, **Australia Cup or Sapphire Cup** Match/Fixture in which the Participant's Team or Club plays in, whichever occurs first, until the Suspension is served in full.
- (e) A Participant must serve a Fixture Suspension in the same age-grade for which he or she received that Suspension and will not be eligible to participate in any Match/Fixture until that Suspension is served in full; If a Fixture Suspension extends over one (1) or more Seasons, that Suspension must be served in the age-grade in which the Participant would normally compete in the following Section(s).
- (f) While subject to a Fixture Suspension, a Participant may only participate in a Trial Match, Tournament or Pre-Season Competition if the FC has determined, in its absolute discretion, that the Participant may do so. To the extent any determination by a Body permits, or seeks to permit, a Participant to participate in a Trial Match, Tournament or Pre-Season Competition, that part of the determination will not apply.
- (g) Unless a Body determines otherwise, **in its absolute discretion**, a Fixture Suspension applies to the Participant in the capacity in which the Participant was acting when he or she **committed** the Offence giving rise to the Suspension.
- (h) While serving a Fixture Suspension, a Participant must not, on the day of a Fixture, act in any manner or role for which he or she has been suspended.
- (i) For the purposes of section 14.6(h), a Participant subject to a Fixture Suspension as a Player or Official must not:
  - i. enter the field of play (or court), its surrounds, the Technical Area, players race, dressing rooms or any other place within a stadium, venue, ground or Centre where players and/or officials are likely to assemble to prepare for a match;
  - ii. be seated in an area in a stadium, venue, ground or Centre normally reserved for players and/or officials;
  - iii. have any contact with the Host Broadcaster or any other media where the purpose of such contact is for it to be electronically broadcast to the public, including (but not limited to) participating in any post-match press conference and participating in television or radio interviews; and
  - iv. in the case of a coach, must not engage or attempt to engage a third party to relay coaching instructions.
- (j) For the purpose of section 14.6(h), a Participant subject to a Fixture Suspension as a Spectator must not enter a stadium, venue, ground or Centre during a Fixture until that Suspension is served in full. Unless a Body determines otherwise, a Fixture Suspension imposed on a Participant as a Spectator will be served in accordance with this section 14.6.
- (k) Where a Participant the subject of a Fixture Suspension is unable to register with a Club participating in a FC Competition such that he or she would be otherwise able to serve the Fixture Suspension in accordance with these Regulations, that Participant may register with a club in another competition and the FC may, in its absolute discretion, allow that Participant to serve the Fixture Suspension in that other competition.

- (l) Where a Fixture Suspension extends over one (1) or more Seasons and the Participant does not return to participate in a FC Competition in the following Season(s), that Participant must serve that Suspension in whichever competition he or she subsequently participates in, if any. If the FC determines, in its absolute discretion, that the Participant joined that competition for the purpose (in whole or in part) of enabling the Participant to serve that Suspension in that other competition, any suspension served in that other competition may not be permitted towards the serving of the Suspension.

#### **14.7 Non-selection of the Association representative teams**

If a Participant has been selected to represent the Association in a representative competition, event or tournament and then subsequently has been issued with a Suspension or Interim Suspension Order (see section 13.1) the Association may, in its absolute discretion, decide to suspend the Participant from representing the Association or the region at that representative competition, event or tournament. Any decision made by the Association under this section 14.5 is final and not subject to any appeal.

#### **14.8 Effect of Abandoned Matches**

- (a) Only those Matches actually played count towards the serving of any Fixture Suspension.
- (b) Subject to section 14.8(c), if a Match is abandoned, cancelled or forfeited pursuant to FC Rules and Regulations, a Suspension is only considered to be served if the Participant's Team is not responsible for the events that led to the abandonment, cancellation or forfeiture of the Match.
- (c) FC may decide, in its absolute discretion, whether a Suspension or part thereof may be served in an abandoned, cancelled or forfeited Match and any such decision is final and not subject to any appeal.
- (d) A Yellow Card issued during an abandoned Match will be annulled if that Match is replayed and upheld if that Match is not replayed.
- (e) Any Red Card issued during an abandoned Match will be upheld, regardless of whether the Match is replayed or not.

#### **14.9 Recognition of Suspensions**

- (a) Any sanction imposed on a Member (or on a person or entity seeking to become a Member) by a Club, Centre, Referees Body, Member Association of FNSW, FNSW, or FA under its applicable rules and regulations may be endorsed and applied by the FC, in its absolute discretion.
- (b) The Executive may, in its absolute discretion, notify Suspensions to FA, FNSW and Member Associations of FNSW who may endorse and apply Suspensions across their respective jurisdiction.

### **15. CONDUCT**

#### **15.1 Financial Default and Payment of Interest**

- (a) In the event that a Club fails to make payment of any amount payable to the Association by the due date ("**Financial Default**") then they shall be liable to pay interest on the amount outstanding from the date of such Financial Default until the date of actual payment at the existing Reserve Bank interest rate for each month or part of a month during which any such payment shall be overdue.

#### **15.2 Non-Financial Conduct**

- (a) Where any Member suffers Financial Default, it shall be referred to the Board who may, in its absolute discretion and in addition to section 15.1, enforce this section 15.2.

##### ***Club***

- (b) A Club in Financial Default shall:
- i. if more than thirty (30) days from the date the payment is due and payable:

- A. in the case of a Club during the playing season, not be entitled to any points from any Premiership Match in which it participates in until the Financial Default is rectified.
- B. if the Club is playing in Championship finals or a Cup then it will forfeit any Match it participates in until the Financial Default is rectified; or
- ii. if more than forty-five (45) days from the date the payment is due and payable:
  - A. in the case of a Club during the playing season, the Board, may suspend or expel the Club from participating in any current the Association Competition until the Financial Default is rectified; or
  - B. in the case of a Club during the off-season, the Club will not be entitled to participate in any future the Association Competition until the Financial Default is rectified.; or
  - C. have such other sanctions or penalties imposed on them as the Board may determine at its absolute discretion.

### **15.3 Non-Financial Conduct – Participants**

In the event that a Participant fails to make payment of any amount payable to FC, a Club, or a Referees Body (**the other party**) by the due date set by the other party (or by FC where FC is not the other party), FC may declare that Participant as “un-financial” and may suspend that Participant until the amount payable is paid to the other party.

### **15.4 Misconduct and Disrepute**

Misconduct shall mean any act or omission by a Member which:

- (a) constitutes a breach of the FIFA Statutes and Regulations;
- (b) constitutes a breach of the FA Rules and Regulations;
- (c) constitutes a breach of the Association Constitution or Participation Agreement;
- (d) constitutes a breach of the Laws of the Game;
- (e) constitutes a breach of the Association Rules and Regulations (including these Regulations) unless a document contains a provision or provisions for dealing with any breach thereof;
- (f) is unsportsmanlike or unprofessional;
- (g) results in the failure to provide a safe environment for Participants or to maintain public order at a Match;
- (h) brings or may bring the game into Disrepute or damage the reputation and goodwill of the game; or
- (i) in the opinion of the Association, is or may be prejudicial to the interests or reputation of either the game of football in the State, in the Region or the Association or any of its sponsors.

### **15.5 Misconduct – Culpability, Attempt and Involvement**

- (a) Offences are punishable regardless of whether they have been committed deliberately, recklessly or negligently.
- (b) Acts amounting to attempt are also punishable. A Body may, however, reduce the sanction envisaged for the actual Offence and determine any extent of mitigation as it sees fit.
- (c) Any Participant who knowingly takes part in committing an Offence, either as instigator or accomplice, is also punishable. A Body may take account of the degree of guilt of the party involved by reducing the sanction as it sees fit.

### **15.6 Misconduct – Club Liability**

- (a) A Club is deemed to have committed an offence(s) under section 15.4 (Misconduct and Disrepute) where its Club Officials, Team Officials, Players or Spectators have been found guilty by a Tribunal of any offence(s) outlined in section 15.4 (Misconduct and Disrepute) and the Club may be sanctioned accordingly by a Tribunal.
- (b) At any Tribunal hearing dealing with an offence outlined in section 25.4 (Misconduct and Disrepute) allegedly committed by a Club's Team Officials, Club Officials, Players or Spectators, that Club will be required to make written and/or oral submissions to the Tribunal addressing any mitigating circumstances, the Club's Disciplinary History and potential sanctions.
- (c) A Club's failure to provide submissions in accordance with 15.5(b) will not prevent the Tribunal from making an adverse finding against that Club and will be deemed to be contempt of a Tribunal and may be sanctioned pursuant to section 12.15 (Contempt against a Tribunal).

**15.7 Misconduct - Registration**

- (a) In the event of a Player signing registration forms for more than one Club, priority of registration will be accorded to the Club who earliest in time, all things being equal, obtained the Player's signature to a valid registration form.
- (b) If a Player has self-registered through the National Online Registration System, the registration which earliest in time is recorded in that system will be granted priority.
- (c) A Player must not intentionally or recklessly register with, or sign registration forms for, more than one (1) Club.
- (d) A Club (**the second Club**) must not intentionally or recklessly induce or attempt to induce, whether directly or indirectly, a Player who is registered with, or has signed a registration form to register with, another Club (**the current Club**), to:
  - i. register with the second Club;
  - ii. sign a registration form with the second Club; or
  - iii. de-register from the current Club.
- (e) A Player or Club in breach of sections 15.7© or 15.7(d), will be deemed to have committed Misconduct (section 15.4) and the Executive may, in its absolute discretion, charge the Member accordingly and refer the matter to the Disciplinary Tribunal for determination pursuant to section 8.2 (Charges of Misconduct and Disrepute).

**16. ON-FIELD MISCONDUCT**

**16.1 Yellow Card**

- (a) A Yellow Card is issued by a Match Official to a Player due to the following caution able offences specified in Law 12 of the Laws of the Game and shall be given as follows:

Code	Description
Y1	The player is guilty of unsporting conduct
Y2	The player shows dissent by action or word
Y3	The player persistently infringes the Laws of the Game
Y4	The player delays the restart of play
Y5	The player fails to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free kick or throw in
Y6	The player re-enters the field of play without the Referee's permission
Y7	The player deliberately leaves the field of play without the Referee's permission

- (b) For the avoidance of doubt, if a Player receives two (2) Yellow Cards in a Match, resulting in a Red Card Offence (R7) then neither caution shall be considered when accumulating cautions pursuant to sections 16.2 to 16.4.

- (c) If a Player receives one (1) Yellow Card in a Match and then receives a direct Red Card in the same Match, the Yellow Card will **not** be expunged from the Player’s record and must be considered when accumulating Yellow Card pursuant to sections 16.2 to 16.5.
- (d) A Mandatory Match Suspension incurred as a result of the accumulation of Yellow Cards pursuant to sections 16.2 to 16.5 cannot be appealed.

**16.2 Accumulation of Yellow Cards – Season**

- (a) A participant who accumulates five (5) Yellow Cards in the Season shall serve a mandatory one (1) Fixture Suspension. The Fixture Suspension shall be served immediately.
- (b) A participant who accumulates an additional three (3) Yellow Cards (in total eight (8) Yellow Cards) in the Season shall serve a mandatory 2 (two) Fixture Suspension. The Fixture Suspension shall be served immediately.
- (c) A participant who accumulates an additional two (2) Yellow Cards (in total ten (10) Yellow Cards) in the Season shall serve a mandatory three (3) Fixture Suspension. The Fixture Suspension shall be served immediately.
- (d) A participant who accumulates his or her eleventh (11<sup>th</sup>) Yellow Card in total the Season shall be required to appear before a Disciplinary Tribunal and shall not be eligible to participate in any Fixture until he or she has appeared before the Disciplinary Tribunal and has served the sanction imposed by the Disciplinary Tribunal.
- (e) The accumulation of Yellow Cards in a Season does not carry over into the next Season.

**16.3 Accumulation of Yellow Cards - Cup**

A Player who accumulates two (2) Yellow Cards in a Cup Match shall serve a mandatory one (1) Fixture Suspension, to be served immediately, in the next Fixture (be that a Cup, Premiership or Championship Fixture) that the Participant’s team plays, except in the case of a Pre-Season Competition to which section 14.4(h) applies. A single Yellow Card during a Cup Fixture does not carry over into the Championship, Premiership or the next Cup.

**16.4 Red Card Offences**

- (a) Subject to section 7 (Judiciary Committee), a Participant who receives a Red Card must serve the mandatory minimum Fixture Suspension as set out in the Table of Offences (Schedule 3). The Participant’s Club shall be charged an administration fee for any dismissal offence incurred by participants registered with the club or acting as a team official. Such administration fee will be in accordance with the fee schedule of the Association current at the time of the offence.
- (b) A Red Card may be issued by a Match Official during a Match against a Participant who engages in any one of the following offences and also listed at the Table of Offences at Schedule 3 to these Regulations:

Code	Description
R1	Serious foul play
R2	Violent conduct
R3	Spitting at an opponent or any other person
R4	Denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goal-keeper within his own penalty area)
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
R6	using offensive, intimidating, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures
R7	receiving a second caution in the same match

- (c) Red Cards issued during an abandoned Match will be upheld regardless of whether the Match is replayed or not.
- (d) A Participant who is issued with a Red Card or Expelled during a match:
  - i. Must not, for the remainder of the Fixture, enter the Field of Play, its surrounds of the Technical Area or occupy the space immediately adjacent to the Technical Area; and
  - ii. Must not at the conclusion of the Fixture have contact with any Match Official involved in the Fixture.

#### **16.5 Accumulation of Red Cards**

- (a) Subject to the Table of Offences (Schedule 3), a participant who accumulates two (2) Red Cards in the Association Competitions in any one (1) season the minimum and maximum penalties shall be doubled.
- (b) Subject to the Table of Offences (Schedule 3), a Participant who accumulates three (3) Red Cards in the Association Competitions in any one (1) Competition Season shall not be eligible to participate in any further Match for the balance of the current competition season in his or her capacity as a Player after receiving his or her third (3rd) Red Card Offence.
- (c) Such Participant who has received three (3) Red Cards in a season shall be required to appear before the Judiciary Committee for the following season before being eligible to play in any competition fixture.
- (d) In the event of three (3) participants from one team being sent off during the one season, one (1) competition point shall be deducted from the team's season tally on the competition ladder.
- (e) For each additional participant (after the first three (3)) from the one team being sent off, during the one season, then one (1) further competition point shall be deducted.

#### **16.6 Club responsibility for recording accumulation of Yellow and Red Cards Offences**

- (a) It is a Club's responsibility to keep accurate records of the Yellow and Red Card Offences received by its Players and Officials regardless of whether a Participant may have accumulated Yellow or Red Card Offences whilst registered with a previous Club.
- (b) It is a Club's responsibility to ensure that any Participant who has incurred a Fixture Suspension serves that sanction in full.

#### **16.7 Team Misconduct**

- (a) The Executive or Tribunal may impose additional Suspensions on a Club for the Misconduct of a team, including when:
  - i. five (5) participants are given Yellow Cards or Red Cards during one (1) Match;
  - ii. three (3) participants are given Red Cards during one (1) Match;
  - iii. one or more Participants make threats or show force against a Match Official; or
  - iv. Players and/or Participants engage in violent conduct.
- (b) The relevant sanctions for team misconduct are set out at Schedule 3 to these Regulations.

#### **16.8 Unregistered Players**

- (a) Clubs must not field or list unregistered Players, including individuals playing under false or assumed identities, in any Match. Unregistered Players means those Players who have not registered with FA and the FC.

- (b) Any Club which fields or lists unregistered players shall be deemed to have committed Misconduct (section 15.3) and as a result the Association may, in its absolute discretion, charge the Club and refer the matter to the DT for Determination.

#### **16.9 Ineligible Players**

- (a) Clubs must not field or list Ineligible Players in any Match.
- (b) Any Club which fields or lists Ineligible Players shall be deemed to have committed Misconduct (section 15.4) and as a result the Association may, in its absolute discretion, charge the Club and refer the matter to the DT for Determination.

#### **16.10 Team Officials and Club Officials**

- (a) The Judiciary Committee has jurisdiction to issue Suspensions based on the Match Official Incident Reports and in accordance with the Table of Offences (Schedule 3, Table B) against Team Officials and Club Officials.
- (b) A Team Official or Club Official who has been sent-off or expelled from the technical area by a Match Official must immediately serve a mandatory one (1) Fixture Suspension in the next Premiership, Championship or Cup Fixture, whichever occurs first which may be taken as being included in any additional Suspensions issued by a Body which may apply across all Football Activities depending on the severity of the Offence.

#### **16.11 Refusal to take the field of play and mass walk-offs**

Any Club which by the conduct of its Players, Team or Club Officials or Spectators caused a Match to be terminated or abandoned as a result of refusing to take the field or mass walk-offs shall be deemed to have brought the game into Disrepute and as a result the Association may, in its absolute discretion, charge a Participant or the Club itself and refer the matter to the DT for Determination.

### **17. SOCIAL MEDIA AND DETRIMENTAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

- (a) Without limiting the Association Social Media Policy (adopted on 17 March 2014) or FA Rules and Regulations, Members must not make public or media comment (including via social media) which is detrimental to the Association, a local government in the FC region, a sponsor of the Association or to the interests of the game.
- (b) Without limitation, Members will breach these Regulations and be deemed to be making comment detrimental to the interests of the game if in making any public or media comment it:
  - i. denigrates or criticises another Member, whether in relation to incidents that have occurred in a match or otherwise;
  - ii. denigrates or criticises the Association or any of its commercial partners or Local Council;
  - iii. denigrates or criticises a Participant by inappropriately commenting on any aspect of his or her performance, abilities or characteristics;
  - iv. comments on the likely outcome of hearing;
  - v. criticises the outcome of a hearing; or
  - vi. criticises any evidence, submission or other comment made by any person at a hearing.
- (c) the Association may, in its absolute discretion, investigate such matters and charge Members under these Regulations and refer the matter to the DT for Determination.

### **18. SPECTATORS**

- (a) The Association has adopted the FA Spectator Code of Behaviour applies to all Spectators attending any Match.
- (b) The Disciplinary Tribunal has jurisdiction to determine matters involving Spectators and to issue sanctions against:

- i. Spectators;
  - ii. Players or Officials who are children or wards of any Spectator, in respect of the behaviour of that Spectator; and
  - iii. Clubs, in respect of the behaviour of any Spectator.
- (c) In the event of a breach of the FA Code of Conduct for Spectators Policy, the Association may refer the matter to the DT and seek an appropriate sanction including but not limited to excluding Spectators from all Matches within the Association's jurisdiction.
- (d) Any ban imposed by FA under its applicable rules and regulations against a person may be endorsed and applied by the Association across all Matches.

## SCHEDULE 1: DEFINITIONS

**“Affected Party”** means a party (including the Association) who may be affected by a decision based on the relief sought by a Member submitting a Notice of Appeal or Grievance Form under these Regulations;

**“Appeals Tribunal Determination or AT Determination”** means a decision or Determination made by the AT pursuant to section 9;

**“Appeals Tribunal” or “AT”** means the Body responsible for hearing and determining appeals set out in section 9;

**“Application Fees”** means the applicable fees to appear before a GPT or AT as set out in Schedule 4;

**“Association”** means Football Canterbury (FC);

**“Association Member”** means those admitted from time to time as members of the Association under the FC Constitution and includes the Association;

**“Association Competitions”** means any or all of the football matches, tournaments, events or competitions owned or conducted by the Association including outdoor, summer competitions and futsal;

**“Association Constitution”** means the constitution of the Association as amended up to 25 November 2013 and as amended from time to time;

**“Association Representative Match”** means any match played by a Participant for a representative side controlled or administered by the Association;

**“Association Rules and Regulations”** mean any rules, regulations, by-laws, policies, procedures, directives, codes of conduct and guidelines developed, promulgated and implemented by the Association;

**“Board”** mean the directors of the Association appointed or elected from time to time in accordance with the Association’s Constitution;

**“Body”** means a body established under section 5 (Authority to establish Committees and Tribunals) of these Regulations;

**“Championship”** means the final series conducted at the completion of the Premiership (whether it be outdoor or futsal) in accordance with the Association Rules and Regulations;

**“Chairperson”** means a chairperson or vice-chairperson of a Tribunal appointed under section 6 (Membership of Bodies);

**“Claim”** means a claim or disagreement by, against or between Members;

**“Club”** means an entity formed for the purpose of playing football or futsal in the Competitions;

**“Club Official”** means any person involved with the administration, management or organisation of a Club (whether paid or unpaid), including employees, contractors, directors, representatives and volunteers;

**“Competitions”** means any or all of the football matches or competitions conducted by the Association and may include a Championship and Premiership component;

**“Complaint”** means an allegation that a Member’s conduct is in breach of FA Rules and Regulations, Football NSW Rules and Regulations or a Member Association’s rules and regulations including the Association;

**“Cup”** means a tournament or event conducted by the Association;

**“Determination”** means a decision made by a Body in accordance with these Regulations;

**“Judiciary Committee or JC”** means the Body responsible to make decisions under section 7;

**“Disrepute”** has its meaning given to it under the FA Code of Conduct. For the purposes of these Regulations, a reference to FA in the FA Code of Conduct shall also be a reference to the Association;

**“Executive”** means the Chief Executive Officer of the Association or his or her nominee;

**“FA”** means Football Federation Australia Limited, the governing body for football (soccer) in Australia;

“**FA Statutes**” means the statutes and any accompanying standing orders, by-laws and regulations governing football in Australia as promulgated by FA from time to time;

“**FA Rules and Regulations**” means the FA Statutes and any other rules, regulations, policies, procedures, codes of conduct and guidelines developed, promulgated and implemented by FA;

“**FIFA**” means Federation Internationale de Football Association, its successor or assignee;

“**Fixture**” means a meeting of clubs as scheduled in all grades applicable;

“**Football Activity**” means any activity of a football nature which takes place on the field of play, playing area or within the external surrounds of a ground or venue;

“**Football NSW**” means the Football NSW Limited ACN 003 215 923 which is the governing body for football (including Futsal) in the State;

“**Disciplinary Tribunal or DT**” means the Body responsible for hearing and determining matters under section 8;

“**Disciplinary Tribunal Determination or DT Determination**” means a decision made by the DT pursuant to section 8;

“**Grievance**” means either a Claim or Complaint as the case requires under section 8.3;

“**Grievance Form**” means **Prescribed Form 14**, used for raising a Grievance against a Member under section 8.3;

“**Ineligible Players**” means Players who have been issued with Suspensions by FA, Football NSW, the Association or an Association Member (see section 16.10);

“**Laws of the Game**” means the official laws of the game of football and futsal as promulgated by FIFA;

“**Mandatory Match Suspension or MMS**” means the automatic suspension from participating in a Match that must be served in accordance with these Regulations;

“**Match**” means any match played in the Association Competition, Cup, Premiership, other event or tournament under the Association’s control;

“**Match Official**” means a referee, assistant referee, fourth official, assessor, match commissioner, any person in charge of safety or any other person appointed by the Association or a Club to assume responsibility in connection with a Match;

“**Match Official Report**” means either a Match Official Send Off Report (**Prescribed Form 02**) or a Match Official Incident Report (**Prescribed Form 03**) prepared and submitted by Match Officials to the Association;

“**Match Official Incident Report (Prescribed Form 03)**” means a report prepared and submitted by a Match Official to the Association which sets out any incidents which occurred prior to, during or after a Match;

“**Match Official Send-Off Report (Prescribed Form 02)**” means a report prepared and submitted by a Match Official to the Association which sets out any Red Card Offences that occurred during a Match;

“**Member**” means for the purposes of these Regulations a Club or a Participant;

“**Misconduct**” has its meaning given to it under section 15.3 of these Regulations;

“**Notice of Appeal**” means the relevant prescribed form submitted by a party to the Association wishing to appeal a decision;

“**Notice of Charge**” means a Notice submitted by the Association charging a Member with Misconduct;

“**Notice of Proceedings**” means a notice submitted by the Association to parties subject to a hearing;

“**Notice of Response**” means **Prescribed Form 12** submitted by a Member having being charged with Misconduct pursuant to these Regulations;

“**Notice of Suspension**” means a notice submitted to a Member who has breached these Regulations and has been issued with a Suspension pursuant to these Regulations;

“**Offences**” means those offences committed by a Member set out in the Table of Offences (Schedule 3);

“**Official**” means a Club Official, Match Official or Team Official;

“**Participant**” means a Player, Official or Spectator;

“**Player**” means any person who participates in a Match (irrespective of whether he or she is registered with FA, junior or senior or an amateur or professional);

“**Pre-Season Competition**” means Fixtures or matches played prior to the commencement of an Association Competition, whether it be outdoor or futsal;

“**Premiership**” means the round robin Matches (both home and away, outdoor and futsal) in which a team competes during a Season in accordance with the Association Rules and Regulations;

“**Red Card Offence**” means one of the sending-off offences set out in in the Table of Offences (Schedule 3, Table A);

“**Region**” means the geographical area for which the Association is responsible. This incorporates the Local Government Areas of Burwood, City of Canada Bay, City of Canterbury Bankstown, Inner West, Strathfield and parts of the City of Sydney;

“**Regulations**” means these the Association Judiciary, Disciplinary, Appeals & Grievance Regulations as amended from time to time;

“**Season**” means from the commencement of the Association Competition to the conclusion of the Association Competition inclusive of Premiership and Championship fixtures unless otherwise directed by the Association;

“**Spectator**” means a person who attends to view a Match;

“**Suspensions**” means the suspensions issued by a Body pursuant to these Regulations;

“**Table of Offences**” mean the Offences as set out at Schedule 3 to these Regulations;

“**Team Official**” means any person involved with the management, preparation or participation of a team (whether paid or unpaid), including the coaches, managers, medical staff, other support staff or any other person acting for or on behalf of a Club;

“**Trial Match**” means any Match played by two Clubs which does not form part of the Association Competition, Cup, Premiership, other event or tournament but has been sanctioned by the Association and includes both outdoor and futsal;

“**Tribunal**” means the General Purposes Tribunal or the Appeals Tribunal;

“**Vexatious Claim**” means a Claim or Complaint instituted without sufficient grounds and serving or designed only to cause annoyance to another Member;

“**Yellow Cards**” means a caution of a Player by a Match Official for an infringement set out in section 16.1.

**SCHEDULE 2: PRESCRIBED FORMS AND EMAIL ADDRESSES**

<b>Documents</b>	<b>Email Address</b>
Match Sheets ( <b>Prescribed Form 01</b> )	<a href="mailto:admin@footballcanterbury.com.au">admin@footballcanterbury.com.au</a>
Match Official Send-Off Report ( <b>Prescribed Form 02</b> )	<a href="mailto:judiciary@footballcanterbury.com.au">judiciary@footballcanterbury.com.au</a>
Match Official Incident Report ( <b>Prescribed Form 03</b> )	<a href="mailto:judiciary@footballcanterbury.com.au">judiciary@footballcanterbury.com.au</a>
Written Statement by a Participant challenging a decision on the basis of mistaken identity in a Match Official Send-Off Report ( <b>Prescribed Form 04</b> ) – section 7.3	<a href="mailto:judiciary@footballcanterbury.com.au">judiciary@footballcanterbury.com.au</a>
Written Statement by actual Participant committing the Red Card Offence - mistaken identity in a Match Official Send-Off Report ( <b>Prescribed Form 05</b> ) – section 7.3	<a href="mailto:judiciary@footballcanterbury.com.au">judiciary@footballcanterbury.com.au</a>
Written Statement by a Club - mistaken identity in a Match Official Send-Off Report ( <b>Prescribed Form 06</b> ) – section 7.3	<a href="mailto:judiciary@footballcanterbury.com.au">judiciary@footballcanterbury.com.au</a>
Written Statement by a Participant – challenging a decision on the basis of mistaken identity in a Match Official Incident Report ( <b>Prescribed Form 07</b> ) – section 7.3	<a href="mailto:disciplinary@footballcanterbury.com.au">disciplinary@footballcanterbury.com.au</a>
Written Statement by actual Participant committing the Offence - mistaken identity in a Match Official Incident Report ( <b>Prescribed Form 08</b> ) – section 7.3	<a href="mailto:disciplinary@footballcanterbury.com.au">disciplinary@footballcanterbury.com.au</a>
Written Statement by a Club - mistaken identity in a Match Official Incident Report ( <b>Prescribed Form 09</b> ) – section 7.3	<a href="mailto:disciplinary@footballcanterbury.com.au">disciplinary@footballcanterbury.com.au</a>
Written Statement by Participant – challenging a decision on the basis of Exceptional Circumstances ( <b>Prescribed Form 10</b> ) – section 7.4	<a href="mailto:Judiciary@footballcanterbury.com.au">Judiciary@footballcanterbury.com.au</a>
Notice of Appeal of a decision of a JC ( <b>Prescribed Form 11</b> ) – section 7.5	<a href="mailto:appeal@footballcanterbury.com.au">appeal@footballcanterbury.com.au</a>
Notice of Response ( <b>Prescribed Form 12</b> ) – section 8.2	<a href="mailto:disciplinary@footballcanterbury.com.au">disciplinary@footballcanterbury.com.au</a>

Notice of Appeal of a decision of a DT( <b>Prescribed Form 13</b> ) – section 8.6	<a href="mailto:appeal@footballcanterbury.com.au">appeal@footballcanterbury.com.au</a>
Grievance Form ( <b>Prescribed Form 14</b> ) – section 8.3	<a href="mailto:grievance@footballcanterbury.com.au">grievance@footballcanterbury.com.au</a>
Any other matter relevant to these Regulations	<a href="mailto:admin@footballcanterbury.com.au">admin@footballcanterbury.com.au</a>

**SCHEDULE 3: TABLE OF OFFENCES**

**Second or subsequent Offences:** Where a Participant has been found guilty of an Offence and then commits the same Offence on a second or subsequent occasion within two (2) years of the expiration of the Suspension issued in respect of the previous Offence, the second or subsequent Offence will be considered a Second or subsequent Offence for the purposes of sanctioning under Schedule 3 (except in the case of Offence Code 25 under Table C (“Letting off incendiary device(s) or fire(s)”) where the relevant time period is within the same Season rather than within two (2) years).

**TABLE A: OFFENCES BY PLAYERS<sup>1</sup>**

OFFENCE CODE		OFFENCE DESCRIPTION	GRADING GUIDELINES	INCIDENCE	PARTICIPANT SANCTION	
Red Card	GRADING				SUSPENSION (Minimum)	SUSPENSION (Maximum)
R1	01-01	<b>Serious foul play</b> <i>(Typically, but not limited to, tackles or challenges on an opponent with the ball)</i>	Serious foul play tackle or challenge	First	MMS + 1 Fixture	24 months
	01-02			Second & subsequent	MMS + 2 Fixtures	
	02-01		Attempting to gain possession of the ball using excessive force	First	MMS + 1 Fixture	24 months
	02-02			Second & subsequent	MMS + 2 Fixtures	
	03-01		Conduct that endangers the safety of an opponent in a contest for the ball or has the potential to cause injury	First	MMS + 2 Fixtures	24 months
	03-02			Second & subsequent	MMS + 3 Fixtures	
	04-01		Conduct causing minor injury	First	MMS +4 Fixtures	24 months
	04-02			Second & subsequent	MMS + 5 Fixtures	
	05-01		Conduct causing serious injury	First	MMS + 6 Fixtures	24 months
	05-02			Second & subsequent	MMS + 10 Fixtures	
R2	01-01	<b>Violent conduct</b> <i>(Typically, but not limited to, the use or attempted use of excessive force against an opponent when not challenging for the ball, or against a</i>	Excessive force	First	MMS + 1 Fixture	24 months
	01-02			Second & subsequent	MMS + 2 Fixtures	
	02-01		Violent conduct	First	MMS + 3 Fixtures	24 months
	02-02			Second & subsequent	MMS + 5 Fixtures	

	03-01	<i>teammate, Club Official, Team Official, Match Official or Spectator)</i>	Serious and/or premeditated violent conduct	<i>First</i>	MMS + 6 Fixtures	24 months
	03-02			<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	MMS + 8 Fixtures	
	04-01		Serious violent conduct that has caused bodily harm or responsibility for a Melee (Grade 2)	<i>First</i>	MMS + 12 Fixtures	24 months
	04-02			<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	MMS + 20 Fixtures	

R3	01-01	<b>Spitting at an opponent or any other person</b>	Causing spittle to land on an opponent or any other person (e.g. by “blowing a raspberry”)	<i>First</i>	MMS + 2 Fixtures	24 months
	01-02			<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	MMS + 4 Fixtures	
	02-01		Spitting at or towards an opponent or any other person	<i>First</i>	MMS + 4 Fixtures	24 months
	02-02			<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	MMS + 8 Fixtures	
	03-01		Spitting on an opponent or any other person	<i>First</i>	MMS + 8 Fixtures	24 months
	03-02			<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	MMS + 16 Fixtures	
R4	01-01	<b>Denying goal scoring opportunity</b>	Denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (except a goalkeeper within their penalty area)	<i>First</i>	MMS	MMS + 3 Fixtures
	01-02			<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	MMS + 1 Fixture	
R5	01-01	<b>Denying goal scoring opportunity</b>	Denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the opponent's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick	<i>First</i>	MMS	MMS + 5 Fixtures
	01-02			<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	MMS + 1 Fixture	
R6	01-01	<b>Offensive, insulting, abusive or intimidating language and/or gestures</b>	Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures in frustration	<i>First</i>	MMS	24 months
	01-02			<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	MMS + 1 Fixture	
	02-01		Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures directed at or towards another person	<i>First</i>	MMS + 1 Fixtures	24 months
	02-02			<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	MMS + 4 Fixtures	
	03-01		Incitement to violence, or repeated use of offensive language and/or gestures directed at or towards another person	<i>First</i>	MMS + 4 Fixtures	24 months

	03-02			<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	MMS + 8 Fixtures	
	04-01		Threatening or intimidating language and/or conduct directed at or towards another person	<i>First</i>	MMS + 4 Fixtures	24 months
	04-02			<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	MMS + 8 Fixtures	
	05-01		Use of discriminatory, homophobic, racist, religious, ethnic or sexist language and/or gestures	<i>First</i>	MMS + 7 Fixtures	24 months
	05-02			<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	MMS + 14 Fixtures	
	06-01		Threat of physical violence directed at or towards another person or their family or property	<i>First</i>	MMS + 8 Fixtures	24 months
	06-02			<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	MMS + 16 Fixtures	
R7	01-01	<b>Second caution or receiving two Temporary Dismissals in the same match</b>	Second Yellow Card in a Match	<i>First</i>	MMS	MMS + 15 Fixtures
	01-02			<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	MMS + 1 Fixture	

<sup>1</sup> Where the Offence giving rise to the Red Card (or other reportable incident) was committed against a Match Official, the applicable Minimum and Maximum Suspensions are those set out in Table B.

<sup>2</sup> A Suspension greater than the applicable Maximum Suspension may be imposed by the Executive or a Body only in Exceptional Circumstances that must be detailed in the Determination.

<sup>3</sup> In addition to the above penalties the following additional orders may be made; the requirement to undertake training in officiating (Referee's Course), Play by the Rules course, Sports Rage course, Anger Management Education, or a combination of all four.

**TABLE B: OFFENCES BY PARTICIPANTS AGAINST MATCH OFFICIALS\***

<b>OFFENCE CODE</b>	<b>OFFENCE DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>INCIDENCE</b>	<b>PARTICIPANT SANCTION</b>	
			<b>SUSPENSION (Minimum)</b>	<b>SUSPENSION (Maximum)</b>
01-01	Fail to abide by or comply with a direction of a Match Official	<i>First</i>	MMS **	24 months
01-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	MMS + 1 Fixture	
02-01	Disputing a decision of a Match Official, dissent or unsportsmanlike/unprofessional behaviour <i>[R6 for Players]</i>	<i>First</i>	MMS **	24 months
02-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	MMS + 1 Fixture	
03-01	Using offensive, insulting or abusive language or gestures in frustration <i>[R6 for Players]</i>	<i>First</i>	MMS + 1 Fixture **	24 months
03-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	MMS + 2 Fixtures	
04-01	Use offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures (isolated incident) <i>[R6 for Players]</i>	<i>First</i>	MMS + 2 Fixtures **	60 months
04-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	MMS + 4 Fixtures	
05-01	Use offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures (repeated and/or excessive conduct) <i>[R6 for Players]</i>	<i>First</i>	MMS + 4 Fixtures **	60 months
05-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	MMS + 6 Fixtures	
06-01	Indecent gestures <i>[R6 for Players]</i>	<i>First</i>	MMS + 6 Fixtures **	60 months
06-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	MMS + 10 Fixtures	
07-01	Provocation or incitement of hatred or violence <i>[R6 for Players]</i>	<i>First</i>	MMS + 8 Fixtures **	Life
07-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	MMS + 12 Fixtures	
08-01	Use of discriminatory, homophobic, racist, religious, ethnic or sexist language and/or gestures <i>[R6 for Players]</i>	<i>First</i>	MMS + 10 Fixtures **	Life
08-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	MMS + 12 Fixtures	
09-01	Threatening or intimidating language or conduct towards a Match Official <i>[R6 for Players]</i>	<i>First</i>	MMS + 13 Fixtures **	24 months
09-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	MMS + 17 Fixtures	
10-01	Threat of physical violence towards a Match Official or his/her family or property <i>[R6 for Players]</i>	<i>First</i>	12 months	Life
10-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	2 years	

11-01	Inappropriate contact with a Match Official <i>[R2 for Players]</i>	First	MMS + 5 Fixtures **	24 months
11-02		Second & subsequent	MMS + 7 Fixtures	
12-01	Pushing a Match Official <i>[R2 for Players]</i>	First	12 months	Life
12-02		Second & subsequent	2 years	
13-01	Tripping a Match Official <i>[R2 for Players]</i>	First	12 months	Life
13-02		Second & subsequent	2 years	
14-01	Striking a Match Official with a ball or other object <i>[R2 for Players]</i>	First	12 months	Life
14-02		Second & subsequent	2 years	
15-01	Punching, kicking, elbowing or striking a Match Official <i>[R2 for Players]</i>	First	4 years	Life
15-02		Second & subsequent	8 years	
16-01	Causing spittle to land on a Match Official (e.g. by “blowing a raspberry”) <i>[R3 for Players]</i>	First	6 months	Life
16-02		Second & subsequent	12 months	
17-01	Spitting at or towards a Match Official <i>[R3 for Players]</i>	First	12 months	Life
17-02		Second & subsequent	2 years	
18-01	Spitting on a Match Official <i>[R3 for Players]</i>	First	2 years	Life
18-02		Second & subsequent	4 years	

\* In respect of Players, Column 2 also references the relevant sending-off offences R1 to R6 under the FIFA Laws of the Game

\*\* In respect to Participant Suspensions (Minimum Suspensions – column 4), where there is a MMS + fixture suspension, an additional one (1) fixture will be added to the minimum suspension when the misconduct is towards a match official that is identified as being under the age of 18 (as per the armband that will be issued to Under 18 Match Officials from 2026).

<sup>1</sup> A Suspension greater than the applicable Maximum Suspension may be imposed by the Executive or a Body only in Exceptional Circumstances that must be detailed in the Determination.

<sup>2</sup> In addition to the above penalties the following additional orders may be made; the requirement to undertake training in officiating (Referee’s Course), Play by the Rules course, Sports Rage course, Anger Management Education, or a combination of all four.

**TABLE C: OTHER OFFENCES BY PARTICIPANTS\***

OFFENCE CODE	OFFENCE DESCRIPTION	INCIDENCE	PARTICIPANT SANCTION		CLUB SANCTION	
			SUSPENSION (Minimum)	SUSPENSION (Maximum)	FINE \$ (Minimum)	OTHER (Minimum)
01-01	Unauthorised entry onto the Field of Play	First	1 Fixture	24 months	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)	
01-02		Second & subsequent	2 Fixtures			
02-01	Failure to abide by or comply with a reasonable direction of an Official (other than a Match Official) or Football Canterbury employee or representative in relation to conduct and/or behaviour at a Match	First	1 Fixture	24 months	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)	
02-02		Second & subsequent	2 Fixtures			
03-01	Unsportsmanlike or unprofessional behaviour	First	2 Fixtures	24 months	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)	
03-02		Second & subsequent	4 Fixtures / 1 month			
04-01	Failure to provide a safe environment for Participants or to maintain public order at a Match	First	4 Fixtures / 1 month	24 months		Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
04-02		Second & subsequent	8 Fixtures / 2 months			Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
05-01	Failure to provide identifying details of an individual when reasonably requested to do so by a Match Official or Football Canterbury employee or representative	First	1 Fixture	24 months		Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
05-02		Second & subsequent	2 Fixtures			Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
06-01	Use offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures (isolated incident)	First	2 Fixtures	24 months	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)	
06-02		Second & subsequent	4 Fixtures / 1 month			
07-01	Use offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures (repeated and/or excessive conduct)	First	4 Fixtures / 1 month	24 months	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)	
07-02		Second & subsequent	8 Fixtures / 2 months			

08-01	Indecent gestures	<i>First</i>	4 Fixtures / 1 month	24 months	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)	
08-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	8 Fixtures / 2 months			
09-01	Provocation or incitement of hatred or violence	<i>First</i>	8 Fixtures / 2 months	24 months	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)	
09-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	12 Fixtures / 3 months			
10-01	Use of discriminatory, homophobic, racist, religious, ethnic or sexist language and/or gestures	<i>First</i>	8 Fixtures / 2 months	48 months		Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
10-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	12 Fixtures / 3 months			
11-01	Participating in a Melee (Grade 1)	<i>First</i>	4 Fixtures / 1 month	24 months		Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
11-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	12 Fixtures / 3 months			
12-01	Instigator of a Melee (Grade 1)	<i>First</i>	8 Fixtures / 2 months	24 months		Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
12-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	16 Fixtures / 4 months			
13-01	Participating in a Melee (Grade 2)	<i>First</i>	12 Fixtures / 3 months	Life		Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
13-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	20 Fixtures / 5 months			

<b><u>OFFENCE CODE</u></b>	<b><u>OFFENCE DESCRIPTION</u></b>	<b><u>INCIDENCE</u></b>	<b><u>PARTICIPANT SANCTION</u></b>		<b><u>CLUB SANCTION</u></b>	
			<b><u>SUSPENSION</u></b> <i>(Minimum)</i>	<b><u>SUSPENSION</u></b> <i>(Maximum)</i>	<b><u>FINE \$</u></b> <i>(Minimum)</i>	<b><u>OTHER</u></b> <i>(Minimum)</i>
14-01	Instigator of a Melee (Grade 2)	<i>First</i>	16 Fixtures / 4 months	Life		Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
14-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	32 Fixtures / 8 months			Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
15-01	Assault/striking	<i>First</i>	8 Fixtures / 2 months	Life		Such penalty as the Executive or the

15-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	16 Fixtures / 4 months			Tribunal determines (if any)
16-01	Violent conduct	<i>First</i>	12 Fixtures / 3 months	Life		Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
16-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	24 Fixtures / 6 months			Tribunal determines (if any)
17-01	Serious violent conduct (including, but not limited to, spitting at or on a Player, Spectator, Club Official, Team Official or Football Canterbury employee or representative)	<i>First</i>	12 months	Life		Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
17-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	2 years			Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
18-01	Damaging property/equipment	<i>First</i>	2 Fixtures	24 months		Cost of repair/replace property & equipment
18-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	8 Fixtures / 2 months			Cost of repair/replace property & equipment
19-01	Contempt against a Body	<i>First</i>	4 Fixtures / 1 month	5 years	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)	
19-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	8 Fixtures / 2 months			
20-01	Breach of the prohibition on dual registration (as per article 5.11 of the FA National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations)	<i>First</i>	12 months	12 months		Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
20-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	12 months			Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
21-01	Breach of Football Canterbury Rules and Regulations or FA National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations relating to registration (other than dual registration) and/or competitions	<i>First</i>	Any penalty or sanction prescribed by the relevant rules and regulations and, if none, such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines		Any penalty or sanction prescribed by the relevant rules and regulations and, if none, such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines	
21-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>				
22-01	Possessing a Prohibited Item at a Match, Fixture or Football Canterbury event	<i>First</i>	2 years	Life		Such penalty as the Executive or the

						Tribunal determines (if any)
22-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	5 years			Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
23-01	Throwing missiles including, but not limited to, on to the Field of Play or at other Spectators	<i>First</i>	2 years	Life		Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
23-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	5 years			Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
24-01	Not display, or attempt to display, within a stadium, venue, ground or centre any offensive or inappropriate banners (whether in English or a foreign language) or any other sign, flag, emblem or insignia which may vilify a person on the basis of their age, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, ability, race, colour, religion, language, politics, national or ethnic origin or which may offend or incite hatred or violence, as determined by Football NSW.	<i>First</i>	2 years	Life		Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
24-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	5 years			Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
25-01	Letting off incendiary device(s) or fire(s)	<i>First</i>	2 years	Life		Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
25-02		<i>Second</i>	5 years			Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
25-03		<i>Third &amp; subsequent</i>	5 years			Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
26-01	Group of Spectators uttering insulting words or sounds	<i>First</i>	6 months	5 years		Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
26-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	12 months			Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)

OFFENCE CODE	OFFENCE DESCRIPTION	INCIDENCE	PARTICIPANT SANCTION		CLUB SANCTION	
			SUSPENSION (Minimum)	SUSPENSION (Maximum)	FINE \$ (Minimum)	OTHER (Minimum)
27-01	Breach of a Suspension, Notice of Suspension or Determination	First	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines but no less than what is prescribed in the Football Canterbury Competition Regulations		Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines	
27-02		Second & subsequent				
28-01	Betting, match-fixing or corruption (as per clause 2 of the FA National Code of Conduct and Ethics)	First	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)	
28-02		Second & subsequent				
29-01	Breach of the FNSW Privacy Policy, the FA Privacy Policy or any privacy policy applicable to a Member's collection, use and disclosure of personal information	First	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)	
29-02		Second & subsequent				
30-01	Bringing the game into disrepute (section 15.4)	First	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)	
30-02		Second & subsequent				
31-01	Detrimental Public Comment (including Media and Social Media)	First	8 Fixtures / 2 months	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines		Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
31-02	<p><i>Including but not limited to, comments that:</i></p> <p><i>i denigrate or criticise Football Canterbury (including any of its staff and Board), FNSW, FA or any of their commercial partners;</i></p> <p><i>ii denigrate or criticise another Member, whether in relation to incidents that have occurred in a Match/Fixture or otherwise;</i></p> <p><i>iii denigrate or criticise a Participant by inappropriately commenting on any aspect of their performance, abilities or characteristics;</i></p> <p><i>iv refer to the likely outcome of a matter being investigated by Football Canterbury a matter or hearing before a Body;</i></p> <p><i>v criticise the outcome of a Football Canterbury investigation;</i></p> <p><i>vi criticise the decision of a Body;</i></p> <p><i>vii criticise a Body or any of its members; or</i></p> <p><i>viii criticise any evidence, submission or other comment made by any person at or in relation to a matter or hearing before a Body</i></p>	Second & subsequent	16 Fixtures / 4 months			

32-01	Other action or behaviour in breach the FA National Code of Conduct and Ethics, the FA National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations, the FA Spectator Code of Behaviour, the FA Integrity Framework and/or the FA Member Protection Framework not identified elsewhere in this Table	<i>First</i>	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
32-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>			
33-01	Threatening or intimidating language or conduct towards an individual	<i>First</i>	MMS + 7 Fixtures	24 months	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
33-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	MMS + 10 Fixtures		
34-01	Threat of physical violence towards an individual or their family or property	<i>First</i>	6 months	24 months	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
34-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	12 months		
35-01	Participant or Member failing to provide or providing false/misleading information to Football Canterbury or a Body	<i>First</i>	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
35-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>			
36-01	Interfering with, or delaying the restart of, play	<i>First</i>	1 Fixture	24 months	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
36-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	2 Fixtures		
37-01	Failure to comply with section 16.4(d) of these Regulations (restrictions imposed on Participants after receiving a Red Card or being Expelled during a Match). Any sanction applied is in addition to the sanction issued in respect of the Red Card Offence or the Expulsion Offence.	<i>First</i>	1 Fixture	24 months	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
37-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	2 Fixtures		

<u>OFFENCE CODE</u>	<u>OFFENCE DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>INCIDENCE</u>	<u>PARTICIPANT SANCTION</u>		<u>CLUB SANCTION</u>	
			<u>SUSPENSION (Minimum)</u>	<u>SUSPENSION (Maximum)</u>	<u>FINE \$ (Minimum)</u>	<u>OTHER (Minimum)</u>
38-01	Inappropriate goal celebration <sup>&amp;</sup>	<i>First</i>	5 Fixtures (if Red Card issued)	24 months		Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
38-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	8 Fixtures (if Red Card issued)	24 months		Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)

39-01	Illegal Training Activities	<i>First</i>	Warning	24 months	Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)
39-02		<i>Second &amp; subsequent</i>	2 Fixtures		Such penalty as the Executive or the Tribunal determines (if any)

\* The offences set out in Tables B and C are not intended to be exhaustive and the Executive may bring any charge against a Participant.

# Table C sets out the Minimum and Maximum Sanctions that may be imposed by the Executive or a Tribunal for the offences set out in that Table. The Executive or a Tribunal may impose any of the other sanctions set out in Table D in addition to a Suspension or Sanction. For example, a Player who receives a four (4) Fixture Suspension for using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures towards a Match Official may also be required to successfully complete a referee's course and be required to officiate a number of Matches.

^A Member is presumed to have known that a person was a Match Official (regardless of that person's attire or regardless of whether that person identified themselves as a Match Official to the Member) unless that Member satisfies the Executive or Body, as the case may be, otherwise.

&In addition to the above penalties the following additional requirement or orders may be made; a requirement to undertake training in officiating (Referee's course), Play by the Rules course, Sports Rage course, Anger Management Training or a combination of all four.

**TABLE D: SANCTIONS IMPOSED BY A BODY OR THE EXECUTIVE**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Type of sanction, order or measure</b>
1	a warning, caution or reprimand
2	a suspended sanction
3	a fine, bond or costs
4	a deduction or loss of competition points or a ban on accruing competition points for a specified period of time or number of Matches or Fixtures
5	a ban on the registration or transfer of Players for a specified period of time
6	ban on registration of Participant with any Club for a specified period of time
7	replaying of a Match
8	termination of registration or playing contract
9	annulment of registration of a Participant
10	suspension from participation in a Match or Fixture
11	exclusion, suspension or expulsion from a Competition, Event, Tournament or Competition
12	a ban on playing in a particular stadium, venue, ground or centre
13	full or partial closure of a stadium, venue, ground or centre
14	order to play a Match without spectators or on neutral territory
15	annulment of the result of any Match or forfeiture of any Match
16	relegation to a lower division
17	the return of an award
18	a ban from the dressing rooms and/or the substitutes' bench
19	a ban from entering any stadium, venue, ground or centre
20	a ban on taking part in any or all Football Related Activity
21	the cost to Football Canterbury of providing security at a stadium, venue, ground or centre for a specified period of time or number of Matches or Fixtures
22	the successful completion of a referee's course and/or the requirement to officiate a number of matches

<b>23</b>	the compulsory attendance at a course(s) of education or rehabilitation (for example, an anger management course)
<b>24</b>	order to repair, or pay the cost of the repair (or replacement), of property or equipment
<b>25</b>	such other disciplinary sanctions or measures as are appropriate in all the circumstances, including as prescribed in the FIFA Statutes, FA Rules and Regulations and Football Canterbury Rules, Regulations and Policies.

**THE PENALTIES THAT WILL BE APPLIED TO A CLUB/TEAM INVOLVED IN AN ABANDONED GAME: THERE WILL BE ZERO TOLERANCE IN RELATION TO VIOLENCE ON THE FOOTBALL FIELD AS A BASIC PRESUMPTION.**

- A. ANY GAME ABANDONED AS A RESULT OF VIOLENCE BY PLAYERS FROM ONE OR BOTH TEAMS MAY RESULT IN THE TEAM OR TEAMS BEING SUSPENDED FROM THE COMPETITION FOR 12 MONTHS.
- B. ANY GAME ABANDONED AS A CONSEQUENCE OF THE ACTIONS OF SPECTATORS INVADING THE PITCH OR OTHERWISE MAY RESULT IN THE TEAM WHOSE SPECTATORS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ABANDONMENT BEING SUSPENDED FROM THE COMPETITION FOR 12 MONTHS

**THE PENALTIES THAT WILL BE APPLIED FOR TEAM MISCONDUCT (s16.7):**

- A. LOSS OF THREE (3) PREMIERSHIP POINTS FROM THE TEAM'S DIVISION TABLE; AND
- B. FEE OF \$125.00 INCURRED BY THE CLUB.

#### SCHEDULE 4: APPLICATION FEES

##### Disciplinary Tribunal (Section 8)

Nature of matter	Fee
Application for a Grievance (section 8.3)	\$500 (plus GST)

##### Appeals Tribunal (Section 9)

Nature of matter	Fee
Appeal Fee from a decision of the JC	\$250 (plus GST)
Appeal Fee from a decision of the DT	\$500 (plus GST)
Appeal Fee from a decision of a Member Appeals Committee	\$500 (plus GST)

##### **COST RECOVERY POLICY – (INITIALLY ADOPTED ON 14 OCTOBER 2013, UPDATED FOR SEASON 2020)**

The Association adopted a policy of cost recovery for the operations of the Judiciary Committee, Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal to come into effect from the 2014 season as follows;

1. In terms of the cost recovery for hearings before the Judiciary Committee, the cost per send-off is \$30 (non-refundable).
2. In terms of cost recovery for hearings by the Disciplinary Tribunal, the cost is established at \$300 (excluding GST) per sitting plus an administration fee of \$50.00 per hour for preparation and arrangements for the hearing.
3. In terms of cost recovery for hearings by the Appeals Tribunal, the cost is established at \$300 (excluding GST) per sitting plus an administration fee of \$50.00 per hour for preparation and arrangements for the hearing.