

Hertfordshire Football Association

Match Based Suspension
Quick Guide



Match Official Cautions – Player

Report received from match official at County – notification sent to club – club to complete paperwork and return to County within stipulated date with administration fee

Match Official Dismisses – Player

Dismissal is accepted (player suspended 21 days from the date of the match), in a case of wrongful dismissal the club must within 1 working day of the match notify the County of its intention to lodge a claim of wrongful dismissal. They must then submit to the County Association a video/DVD recording which shows the full incident leading to the dismissal of the player, together with written reasons for the claim of wrongful dismissal, any supporting evidence and the appeal fee of £100, within 3 working days.

Please be aware that the DVD/video must show that the match official made a serious and obvious error

Mistaken Identity - - match official dismissed the wrong player from the field of play

A club must submit to the County Association written reasons for the claim of mistaken identity, any supporting evidence and the appeal fee of £100, within 3 working days of the match.

A dismissal from the field of play for S6 (using offensive language and/or insulting and/or abusive language and/or gestures) or S7 (receiving a second caution in the same match) is not within the criteria for a claim of wrongful dismissal.

Other than the above – the player cannot appeal his sending off

Suspensions and Fines

Q) If my player has received his 5th caution but have not received notification from County what do we do?

A) The player and the club must take responsibility for recording their own cautions, and as a result should notify County with the game to be missed.

Q) I have received my paperwork regarding my players dismissal late, and only have 7 days to reply?

A) Again this is the responsibility of the Secretary and the player, you must supply the information to County as soon as possible.

Q) If a player received a 1 match suspension and bad weather means there is no football, he will receive a much longer suspension?

A) Unfortunately yes, until the player has served that 1 match suspension for the relevant team he is unable to play any football, including his Sunday side and small sided football as well.

Q) Will misconduct charge punishments be in matches or days?

A) *Generally they will be matches however, Commissions will have the ability to impose time based suspensions in the most serious cases*

Q) If a player is dismissed playing for his reserve team whose fixtures list becomes the qualifying fixture for his suspension?

A) *The player must serve the suspension relevant to which team he was playing for at the time of his dismissal.*

Q) Why has this system been imposed on grassroots football?

A) *The FA have received ongoing requests for match bans over the past twenty years, and at last with computerisation it has been possible.*

Q) This system would appear to be impractical the lower you move down the grassroots ladder, especially with Sunday football?

A) *Match based discipline is not necessarily being introduced at step 7 in its final form; we will be closely monitoring the system and evaluating it throughout the first season.*

Q) What is multi player misconduct?

A) *Any club who has six or more individual players cautioned or dismissed from the field of play in the same match will be automatically fined – there is no appeal process against a fine received due to multi player misconduct.*

