



G.W.B.A. JUDICIARY COMMITTEE CHARGING AND PENALTY GUIDELINES

Updated version 27-08-2005

QUESTION JUDGEMENT CALL

CHARGE CODE	CHARGE	GRADE	DESCRIPTION	GUILTY PLEA PENALTY	DEFENDED PENALTY	DOWN-GRADE TO
QJC1	Question judgement call	1	Not prolonged. No use of offensive or aggressive language or behaviour.	Caution	1 match	No
QJC2	Question judgement call	2	Continuous or prolonged. Abusive or aggressive behaviour or language.	2 matches	4 to 6 match	QJC1

USE OF OFFENSIVE AND/OR ABUSIVE LANGUAGE

CHARGE CODE	CHARGE	GRADE	DESCRIPTION	GUILTY PLEA PENALTY	DEFENDED PENALTY	DOWN-GRADE TO
OAL1	Offensive and/or abusive language	1	Abusive towards players. No swearing involved. Not prolonged.	Caution	1 match	No
OAL2	Offensive and/or abusive language	2	Abusive or offensive towards players, team officials, umpires or spectators. Swearing and or personal remarks. Not loud enough for spectators to hear.	2 matches	4 to 6 matches	OAL1
OAL3	Offensive and/or abusive language	3	Prolonged abuse involving personal, discriminatory or offensive language. Swearing involved. Loud enough for spectators to hear.	4 matches	6 to 12 matches	OAL2

UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

CHARGE CODE	CHARGE	GRADE	DESCRIPTION	GUILTY PLEA PENALTY	DEFENDED PENALTY	DOWN-GRADE TO
UC1	Unsportsmanlike conduct	1	Administrative misdemeanour with no violence or aggression. Examples may be; Deliberate attempts to break rules such as stalling at end of timed game. Tampering with the ball or other equipment.	Caution	1 match	No
UC2	Unsportsmanlike conduct	2	Intentional, reckless or careless breaking of rules. Aggressive behaviour, but with no violence. Examples may be; Break pitch/catch limits Carelessly colliding with a player attempting a tag. Striking a player(retaliation) Pushing players on or off the field. Unduly rough or dummy tag. Adopting a threatening attitude to player.	2 matches	4 to 6 matches	UC1
UC3	Unsportsmanlike conduct	3	Intentional or careless breaking of rules where there is aggressive and/or violent behaviour. Examples may be; Intentionally colliding with a player attempting a tag. (outside a direct line to the base) (Seniors only) Striking a player (instigation). Enter an affray between players. Careless play resulting in the possibility/probability of serious injury. Intentionally throwing the ball/bat/helmet at a player. Fighting on or off the field	4 matches	6 to 12 matches	UC2
UC4	Unsportsmanlike conduct	4	Severe aggressive behaviour. Examples may be; Illegal action causing an altercation between players I.e. rising of elbow/s, fists or boot/s in a tag situation. Dropping of shoulder in a tag situation. Intentional attempt for catcher's interference. Adopting threatening attitude towards umpire or official	8 matches	12 to 26 matches	UC3
UC5	Unsportsmanlike conduct	5	Severe Violence and/or aggression. Prolonged and/or severe. Use of object as weapon such as bat, ball or helmet. Touching/striking/ or handle/push an umpire/official	N/A	15 matches minimum	UC4

CONTRARY CONDUCT

CHARGE CODE	CHARGE	GRADE	DESCRIPTION	GUILTY PLEA PENALTY	DEFENDED PENALTY	DOWN-GRADE TO
CC1	Contrary conduct	1	Offences relating to misdemeanour. Examples may be; Offensive behaviour by sign or gesture. Dangerously or carelessly throwing bat or helmet. Failure to fulfil obligations under the association's playing rules i.e. rules other than player protection rules.	1 match	2 matches	No
CC2	Contrary conduct	2	Offences relating to more severe misdemeanour. Examples may be; Failure to obey an umpire's directive. Unauthorised entry onto the playing field. Failure to obey a directive of any member of the association's executive or a groundsman.	2 matches	4 to 6 matches	CC1
CC3	Contrary conduct	3	Offences relating to dangerous behaviour. Examples may be; Drinking alcohol at the ground prior to playing, officiating or umpiring. Failure to act accordingly re jnr. player protection rules. Offensive behaviour by players, team officials or spectators caused by alcohol or other reason. Playing while suspended or being responsible for same. Throwing objects onto the field.	4 matches	6 to 12 matches	CC2
CC4	Contrary conduct	4	Offences that bring the game, clubs or the association into disrepute or place them in danger. Examples may be; Intentional cheating Intentionally playing unregistered players. Intentionally playing whilst unregistered.	N/A	12 matches minimum	CC3

PENALTY MULTIPLIER FOR PRIOR CONVICTIONS

OFFENCE	PENALTY
First offence in any twelve month period	Penalty as indicated above
Second offence in any twelve month period	Add 50% to the penalty that would normally apply (where a caution is equivalent to 1 match).
Third offence in any twelve month period	Add 100% to the penalty that would normally apply (where a caution is equivalent to 1 match).
Fourth offence in any twelve month period	Automatic twelve-month suspension as minimum.



SERVICE OF PENALTIES

Any penalty imposed in matches, must be served in matches where the team in which the player is registered to play participates.

This excludes;

Games initially washed out but rescheduled & not played.
Games forfeited by the suspended player's team.
Games not part of G.W.B.A. organised competitions.

But includes;

Any competition game.
Washed out games rescheduled then played.
Semi-finals, finals and grand finals.
Games forfeited to the suspended player's team.

SERVICE OF MULTIPLE PENALTIES

It is not the policy or intention of the G.W.B.A. to punish people many times for the same offence.

Therefore penalties that result from charges for offences that occur together are served concurrently. The total suspension being the greatest of those penalties.

Whereas, penalties for charges that occur separately will be served consecutively.

Example 1. (Concurrently served penalties)

A player questions a judgement call by using offensive and abusive language to the umpire, which is not heard by any spectators.

The charges applied would be Question Judgement Call Grade 2 (QJC 2), and Offensive and/or Abusive Language Grade 2 (OAL 2). If the player pleads guilty to both he/she could receive a 1 match suspension for each. The player would however serve both concurrently because they arose from the same action.

Example 2. (Consecutively served penalties)

A player starts a fight with another player and is ejected as a result. After being ejected the player uses loud offensive language towards the umpire, spectators and other players.

The charges applied would be Unsportsmanlike Conduct Grade 4 (UC 4), and Offensive and/or Abusive Language Grade 3 (OAL 3). If the player pleads guilty to both he/she could receive a 6 match suspension and a 4 match suspension. As the two events occurred separately the total suspension would be 10 matches.

This system stops any person from feeling they have a "free shot" at committing additional smaller or lesser offences after being ejected for a more serious offence.



PROCEDURE FOLLOWING EJECTION OR REPORTED INCIDENT

EJECTION BY UMPIRE

The Umpire is required to complete the incident report form immediately upon completion of game.

The original signed copy of the incident report is to be forwarded to the Association's Secretary no later than 6.00pm on the day following the incident.

The original copy of the result sheet, which should also have the ejection or incident noted, must also be forwarded to the Association's Secretary no later than 6.00pm on the day following the incident.

The appropriate Club Secretary or Secretaries will be advised of the applicable charge code/s within 24 hours of the Association's Secretary receiving the incident report.

GUILTY PLEA

To plead guilty to a charge and accept the prescribed penalty the Association's Secretary must be advised in writing no later than 6.00pm on the Tuesday following the incident.

DEFENDED CHARGE

If defending a charge, the Association's Secretary must be advised no later than 6.00pm on the Tuesday following the incident. Upon hearing no advice the penalty will be imposed.

If defending a Grade 1 charge, a player or team official **may take part in games** (that they qualify to play in or officiate at) until the Judiciary hears the case.

If defending a Grade 2 or higher charge, a player or team official **must not take part in games** until the Judiciary hears the case.

Junior players appearing before the Judiciary must be accompanied by their parent/s and/or Guardian or the team's level 1 coach. This will be at the discretion of the Judiciary chairperson.