



## **Complaints, Adjudication of and Penalties for Inappropriate Conduct**

### **1. Ejections Without Subsequent Incident During a Game**

Any player, manager, coach or team representative who is ejected from a game by an umpire shall be subject to a fine of \$25 and suspension for one or more games. If the ejected party complies with the instructions of the umpire and leaves without further incident, he shall be permitted to participate in the next scheduled game subject to paying promptly any fine that is assessed. The Executive Director shall have the discretion to reduce the fine in the case of a first offense or to waive any penalty in a case in which the Executive Director determines that extenuating circumstances exist. No appeal of the fine shall be permitted. **In the case of a second ejection in the same year, the fine shall be \$25, and the ejected party shall be required to pay the fine to the league before the start of his team's next scheduled game.** Failure to pay the fine on time will result in the suspension of the offender either until the fine is paid or for a total of five games, whichever comes first.

### **2. Ejections with Incident of Additional Misconduct Short of Fighting**

Any player, manager, coach or team representative who is ejected from a game by an umpire and fails to leave without further incident, but who does not engage in fighting (the exchange of blows) shall be subject to a fine of \$50 and suspension for two or more games. In this context, "further incident" after the ejection is announced shall include heated argument, the use of abusive language, physical intimidation, throwing of equipment, and destroying or defacing property. No appeal of the penalty assessed by the league shall be permitted. **In the case of a second ejection with incident, the fine shall be \$50 and the offender shall be suspended for a minimum of five games.** Failure to pay the fine will result in the continued suspension of the offender until the fine is paid.

### **3. Ejections with Incident of Fighting**

Any player, manager, coach or team representative, who is ejected from a game by an umpire and, instead of leaving as instructed, subsequently engages in fighting (the exchange of blows) shall be subject to a fine of \$100 and a suspension of at least ten games. In such event, any adjudicating body constituted by the league shall take into account all conduct by the ejected party after the ejection is announced including heated argument, the use of abusive language, physical intimidation, throwing of equipment, and destroying or defacing property. No appeal of the penalty assessed by the league shall be permitted. Failure to pay the fine will result in the continued suspension of the offender until the fine is paid.

#### **Behavior that May Be Beyond the Control of an Umpire**

Any player, coach, manager, team representative, umpire, or league official may file a written complaint objecting to the behavior of another player, coach, manager or team or its fans. The complaint may address any of the following types of conduct that may be beyond the authority or control of an umpire:

- (a) Consuming alcoholic beverages or using tobacco products on or near a playing field or in the parking lot or on the surrounding grounds of a facility being used by the league;
- (b) using profanity or engaging in unruly behavior that is offensive in nature and that can be heard on or near a playing field or in the parking lot or on the surrounding grounds of a facility being used by the league;
- (c) urinating on the grounds of or near the playing field or in the parking lot or on the surrounding grounds of a facility being used by the league (with the exception of restrooms and portable toilets);
- (d) Defacing or damaging property on a facility used by the league;
- (e) Removing equipment or supplies from a facility used by the league that are either the property of the league or the property of the facility;
- (f) Violating the property rights of another person on or near a playing field or in the parking lot or on the surrounding grounds of a facility used by the league;
- (g) Doing physical harm to another person at a facility being used by the league.

## **Investigation and Adjudication**

With respect to items (a), (b) and (c), the Executive Director shall have the option of investigating and adjudicating the behavior about which a complaint has been filed, or referring it to a committee for consideration and adjudication. However, in the event the Executive Director adjudicates a matter on his own, the maximum fine shall be \$25 and the maximum suspension shall be two games.

For each of the types of misconduct described above, the league shall have the right to fine, place on probation or suspend from participation in its activities any player, coach, manager, team member, team official or fan found guilty of engaging in such behavior. In matters in which the misconduct consists of violent physical harm to another person, or results in property damage in excess of \$250, the offending party shall be subject to expulsion from the league and its activities, and may not apply for reinstatement for a period of one year from the date of expulsion.

## **Penalties**

With respect to items (a), (b), and (c), the fine for a first offense shall be up to \$25 and the offender shall be subject to a suspension of up to two games. In the event of a repeat offense, the fine shall be a minimum of \$25 and a maximum of \$50, and an automatic minimum two-game suspension shall apply. Further, repeat offenders may be subject to suspension for the remainder of the season or the remainder of the year.

With respect to items (d), (e), and (f), the fine for a first offense shall be a minimum of \$25 and a maximum of \$50, and the offender shall be subject to a suspension of up to ten games. In the event of a repeat offense, the fine shall be a minimum of \$50 and a maximum of \$100, and an automatic minimum five-game suspension shall apply. Further, repeat offenders may be subject to suspension for the remainder of the season or the remainder of the year. In the event of an offense that results in property damage in excess of \$250, the offender shall be subject to expulsion from the league, and restitution to the victim or damaged facility shall be a condition of readmittance.

## **Acts of Physical Harm**

With respect to item (g), namely an act of physical harm against another, the intent, nature, and degree of the physical harm shall be considered by any adjudicating body of the league in assessing a penalty. In the case of an individual who engages in a physical attack with intent to injure, if such attack is against any player, coach, manager, team representative, fan, member of the league, umpire, or league official, no matter where or when the incident occurs, the offender shall be expelled from the league immediately upon a finding of guilt, and such offender shall not be permitted to participate in any activities of the league nor be present at any of its events until that offender has been reinstated.

## **Notice of Penalty Assessed**

In all cases in which the league assesses a fine, places an individual on probation, suspends or expels an individual, the league shall notify the individual in writing. In the event of suspension, the league shall advise the suspended individual in writing of the terms and period of the suspension.

If the penalized individual is a player or coach, his team manager shall also be notified. In the event of a penalty against a team manager, the league shall take appropriate steps to put the members of his team on notice, and, if necessary, to arrange to designate someone as a replacement manager.