

## Football SA Disciplinary and Judicial Bodies Regulations

### Summary of Key Changes – January 2025

Clause	Issue / Rationale	Current	Change
N/A	Change name of document to more clearly explain the purpose of the document and align to national regulations	Football SA Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations.	Football SA Disciplinary and Judicial Bodies Regulations.
Various	Change name of administrative body making disciplinary decisions to clarify its role and to avoid confusion with the Disciplinary Committee	Competition Disciplinary Committee.	Competition Management Committee.
Various	Ensure gender neutral language	“His” or “her”	“Their” or “they”
8.4	Limit the number of appeals from the Competition Management Committee for minor disciplinary matters	Ability to appeal decisions of Competition Management Committee to the Disciplinary Committee.	Limit appeals from decisions of the Competition Management Committee to the Appeals Committee under specific grounds of appeal.
Various	Change term to reflect nature of document	References to ‘section’.	References to ‘Regulation’.

11	Clarify and expand the process of managing disputes between Football SA members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A short regulation dealing with 'grievances' which did not clearly outline the procedures applying to disputes between Football SA members</li> </ul>	<p>Expand to outline the applicable procedures for resolution of disputes between Football SA members before the State Arbitration Panel including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Jurisdiction of State Arbitration Panel;</li> <li>2. Formation of the Panel;</li> <li>3. Application process;</li> <li>4. Applicable timeframes and Limitation Periods;</li> <li>5. Pre-hearing and hearing procedures;</li> <li>6. Submissions and evidence;</li> <li>7. Relief; and</li> <li>8. Determinations</li> <li>9. Settlement.</li> </ol>
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1.1	Expand definitions to provide greater clarity	No defined term	<p>Various amendments to defined terms and the inclusion of defined terms for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administrator</li> <li>• Club Report</li> <li>• Competition Administrator</li> <li>• Competition Operating Regulations</li> <li>• Community Competitions</li> <li>• Cup Competitions</li> <li>• Determination</li> <li>• Disciplinary Hearing</li> <li>• Judicial Body</li> <li>• Judicial Body Panel</li> <li>• Finals Series</li> <li>• Hearing</li> <li>• Mandatory match Suspension</li> <li>• Minimum Sanction</li> <li>• National Disciplinary Regulations</li> <li>• Notice of Disciplinary Hearing</li> </ul>
3	Appointment of Judicial Body Panel Members	Unclear whether there are separate panels per Judicial Body or one pool of Judicial Body Panel Members.	Clarify that there is one pool of Judicial Body Panel Members which Football SA can appoint members to specific Judicial Body Hearings.

3	Number of Judicial Body Panel Members per Hearing – need an odd number to operate effectively	Currently two there is a minimum of Judicial Body Panel Members.	Provide that one pool of Judicial Body Hearings can proceed with one pool of Judicial Body Panel Members who must be the Chair or Deputy Chair (with legal qualifications).
8.1	The large volume of reports that must currently be actioned by the CMC. The Competition Administrator should be able to action minor infringements or all send off reports which only attract the minimum sanction.	CMC has jurisdiction to issue automatic suspensions.	The Competition Administrator can action all automatic suspensions.
8.2	Process and timeline to submit footage to the CMC and use before Disciplinary Committee	Currently it is unclear of the requirements to submit footage to the CMC.	Clarify when footage or other evidence must be provided to Football SA in order for the CMC to take it into account and impose limitations on subsequently tabling such evidence before the Disciplinary Committee.
8.3(a)&(b)	Contesting a Yellow Card weeks or months later for the purposes of Yellow Card accumulation.	Currently issues exist where Yellow Cards are challenged weeks or months later for the purposes of Yellow Card accumulation.	Inclusion of a clear process and timeline to challenge the issue of Yellow Cards otherwise they
8.4	Number of appeals from the CMC.	Ability to freely appeal decisions of Competition Management Committee to the Disciplinary Committee.	Limit appeals from decisions of the Competition Management Committee to the Appeals Committee under specific grounds of appeal.
10.1	Jurisdiction of Appeals Committee	Unclear	Jurisdiction to hear appeals from CMC and D&EC only and on limited grounds of appeal.

10.2	Grounds of Appeal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard;</li> <li>• Decision was so unreasonable no such body could have made such a decision; and</li> <li>• The sanction was manifestly excessive.</li> </ul>	Include that the Determination was affected by bias as a ground of appeal, which is standard.
11	Clarify and expand the process of managing disputes between Football SA members	A short regulation dealing with 'grievances' which did not clearly outline the procedures applying to disputes between Football SA members	<p>Expand to outline the applicable procedures for resolution of disputes between Football SA members before the State Arbitration Panel including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10. Jurisdiction of State Arbitration Panel;</li> <li>11. Formation of the Panel;</li> <li>12. Application process;</li> <li>13. Applicable timeframes and Limitation Periods;</li> <li>14. Pre-hearing and hearing procedures;</li> <li>15. Submissions and evidence;</li> <li>16. Relief; and</li> <li>17. Determinations</li> <li>18. Settlement.</li> </ul> <p>Ensure such matters are resolved within the Football SA framework consistent with the national process.</p>
14	Social Media Comment	Included broad references to various FA and Football SA policies.	Include specific reference to FA Code of Conduct.

15	Spectators	Included broad references to various FA and Football SA policies, including incorrect references	Include specific reference to FA Code of Conduct and the powers of Football SA to enforce the FA Code of Conduct against Clubs, Player, Officials and Spectators.
16(d)	Clarify that a player's eligibility to play the day after the suspension has been served is subject to having served the suspension	<i>"A player is eligible to play the day after the suspension has been served."</i>	<i>"A Participant is eligible to play or otherwise participate in a Match the day after the suspension has been served in accordance with Regulation 16(c). For the avoidance of doubt, this eligibility is subject to the Participant having first served their suspension in the relevant league Competition. For example, a Participant who accumulates a suspension in a reserves league Competition cannot then subsequently play a Match in a seniors league Competition that day."</i>
16(j)	Clarify each Club's responsibility for maintaining an independent record of disciplinary statistics and suspensions to ensure compliance	<i>"Each Club shall keep a record of their players' yellow and red cards. All Clubs are responsible for ensuring a suspended player is not played."</i>	<i>"Each Club is responsible for maintaining an independent record of their Participant 's Yellow Card Offences and Red Card Offences and for ensuring a suspended Participant does not play or acts in the capacity of a Team Official."</i>
16-18	Match Suspensions	Various repetition and inconsistency across these Regulations, Competition Operating Regulations and National Disciplinary Regulations.	Various amendments to remove repetition and ensure consistency across these Regulations and National Disciplinary Regulations (removing these sections from Competition Operating Regulations).  Inclusion of regulations relating to match suspensions in Cup Competitions.

19	Serving a Suspension	No section.	Detailing the terms of a suspension imposed on Players and Officials on match day.
20	Failure to Respect a Determination	No section.	Detailing the potential consequences and the applicable process to Clubs, Players and Officials who fail to respect a determination, and afford Football SA the necessary powers to enforce determinations.
21	Football SA and Judicial Body Immunity	No section.	Ensure Football SA and Judicial Body have legal immunity for acts undertaken pursuant to these Regulations.
22	Substantial Compliance	No section.	Ensure that disciplinary processes, proceedings, determinations, notices etc will not be invalidated by procedural defects.
Annexure	Table of Offences	Replication of the Table of Offences in the national Disciplinary Regulations	Provide greater detail regarding the minimum sanction applicable for first instances and second or subsequent instances with respect of each offence.