

Rules Protests
& Disputes

2017-
2018

Charging and Penalty Policy



Rules Protest and Disputes Committee

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Question Judgement Call

Charge Code	Charge	Grade	Description	Guilty Plea Penalty	Defended Penalty	Downgrade To
QJC1	Question Judgement Call	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not Prolonged • No use of offensive or aggressive language or behaviour 	Caution	1 Game	N/A
QJC2	Question Judgement Call	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous or prolonged • Abusive or aggressive language or behaviour 	1 Game	2 to 4 Games	QJC1

Use of Offensive and/or Abusive Language

Charge Code	Charge	Grade	Description	Guilty Plea Penalty	Defended Penalty	Downgrade To
OAL1	Offensive or Abusive Language	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abusive towards player • No swearing involved • Not prolonged 	Caution	1 Games	N/A
OAL2	Offensive or Abusive Language	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abusive or offensive towards players, umpires or spectators • Swearing and/or personal remarks • Not loud enough for the spectators to hear 	1 Games	2 to 4 Games	OAL1
OAL3	Offensive or Abusive Language	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prolonged abuse involving personal, discriminatory or offensive language • Swearing involved • Loud enough for spectators to hear 	4 Games	5 to 8 Games	OAL2

Unsportsmanlike Conduct

Charge Code	Charge	Grade	Description	Guilty Plea Penalty	Defended Penalty	Downgrade To
UC1	Unsportsmanlike Conduct	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative misdemeanour with no violence or aggression Example: Deliberate attempts to break rules such as stalling at end of timed game Tampering with ball or other equipment	Caution	1 Game	N/A
UC2	Unsportsmanlike Conduct	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intentional, reckless or careless breaking of rules Aggressive behaviour, but with no violence Example: Carelessly colliding with catcher (or others) Pushing players on or off the field Intentionally throwing the ball at the batter Unduly rough or dummy tag Adopting threatening attitude to player	2 Games	2 to 4 Games	UC1
UC3	Unsportsmanlike Conduct	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intentional or careless breaking of the rules where there is aggressive and or violent behaviour Example: Striking a player Careless play resulting in the possibility/probability of serious injury Adopting threatening or disrespecting attitude to umpire	4 Games	5 to 10 Games	UC2
UC4	Unsportsmanlike Conduct	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe aggressive or violent behaviour Example: Fighting on or off the field Touching or handling an umpire	6 Games	11 Games to 26 weeks	UC3
UC5	Unsportsmanlike Conduct	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Violence and/or aggression Prolonged and/or severe Example: Use of object as a weapon such as bat, ball or helmet Striking or pushing an umpire	15 Games	26 weeks to life	UC4

Contrary Conduct

Charge Code	Charge	Grade	Description	Guilty Plea Penalty	Defended Penalty	Downgrade To
CC1	Contrary Conduct	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offenses relating to misdemeanour Example: Offensive behaviour by sign or gesture Dangerously or carelessly throwing equipment Failure to fulfil obligations under the league's playing rules	Caution	1 Game	N/A
CC2	Contrary Conduct	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offenses relating to more severe misdemeanour Example: Failure to obey an umpire's directive Consumption of alcohol at the ground prior to playing, coaching or umpiring Unauthorised entry onto the playing field Failure to obey a directive of any member of the leagues executive or Groundsmen/ground manager	1 Game	2 to 4 Games	CC1
CC3	Contrary Conduct	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offences relating to dangerous behaviour Example: Offensive behaviour by players or spectators caused by alcohol or other reason Playing/coaching while suspended or being responsible for same Throwing objects onto the field	4 Games	5 To 8 Games	CC2
CC4	Contrary Conduct	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offenses which bring the game, Clubs or the League into disrepute or place them in danger Example: Intentional Cheating Intentionally playing unregistered player(s)	8 Games	9 Games to 26 Weeks	CC3

Penalty for Prior Convictions

Previous Offences	
First offence in any twelve (12) month period	As above
Second offence in any twelve (12) month period	Add 50% of penalty that would normally apply (where caution is equivalent to 1 Week)
Third offence in any twelve (12) month period	Add 100% of penalty that would normally apply (where caution is equivalent to 1 Week)
Fourth offence in any twelve (12) month period	Automatic twelve (12) month suspension

Service of Penalties

Any penalty imposed in games, must be served in games where the team in which the player is registered and which he was playing when the offence occurred participates.

This excludes;

Games forfeited by the suspended player's team.
Games not part of the MBL organised competition

But Includes;

Washouts caused by weather
Semi-finals, finals & grand finals
Games forfeited to the suspended player's teams

Any penalty imposed in weeks will be served commencing from the date of the offence which resulted in the penalty

Service of Multiple Penalties

It is the policy of the RP&D not to punish people many times for the same offence.

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

Example:

1. A player questioned a judgement call by using offensive and abusive language to the umpire that is not heard by the spectators.

The charge raised would be question judgement call Grade 2, and Offensive or abusive language Grade 2. If the player pleads guilty to both he would receive 1 game suspension for each. He would however serve both concurrently (resulting in only one match missed) because they arose from the same action.

2. A player is involved in 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 raised would be unsportsmanlike conduct Grade 4, and Offensive or abusive language Grade 3. If the player pleads guilty to both he would receive a 6 games suspension and a 4 games suspension. Because the two events occurred separately the total suspension would be 10 games

This system stops any person from feeling they have a "free kick" by committing small offenses after being ejected for a more severe offence