



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES RUGBY FEDERATION

DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS

Disciplinary Definitions

1. Appendix

For the purposes of the UAERF's Disciplinary Regulations the following definitions will apply:

Appeal Committee or **Appeal Officer** means the Appeal Committee or Appeal Officer appointed by the Union under these Disciplinary Regulations;

Appellant means a Player or other participant who appeals against a finding of or a penalty imposed by a Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee;

Assistant Referee means an assistant referee officiating in a Match organised or administered by the Union, affiliated to the UAERR, officially appointed by the UAERR or the Union and not appointed by either of the participating Clubs;

Assistant Referee's Report means a report in writing submitted to the Union by an Assistant Referee;

Board of Directors means the current board of directors of the Union;

Citing is to report to the Union in writing an Incident under Regulation 4;

Citing Commissioner is a person appointed by the Union who may cite an Incident under Regulation 4;

Citing Complaint means a notice of alleged incidents of a breach or breaches;

Club means a club or school represented by a team participating in any Union Match or Competition;

Competition means any rugby Competition or Match organised or administered by the Union;

Complainant Club means a club, school or affiliate that seeks to cite a Player;

Decision means a decision of the Rugby Manager, the Union, a Judicial Officer, Disciplinary Committee or Appeal Committee;

Deposit means the sum of AED1,000;

Disciplinary Committee means the Disciplinary Committee appointed by the Union under the Disciplinary Regulations;

Disciplinary Definitions means the disciplinary definitions specified in this section as amended from time to time;

Disciplinary Regulations means these disciplinary regulations as amended from time to time;

Foul Play means foul play as defined in WR Regulation 17.7.3

Game means rugby football played in accordance with the Laws of the Game;

Hearing means a hearing convened by the Union, Judicial Officer, Disciplinary Committee or Appeal Committee;

In Writing means a signed letter either a) posted or sent by courier to the relevant



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address or b) sent as an e mail or fax to the relevant address;

Incident means the act(s) or alleged act(s) of Foul Play giving rise to the relevant disciplinary proceedings;

Judicial Officer or **Chairman** means the judicial officer or chairman of a Disciplinary Committee or Appeal Committee;

Laws of the Game means the WR laws governing the playing of rugby as amended from time to time;

Match means any rugby match organised or administered by the Union;

Notice of Appeal means a notice of appeal in writing submitted by an Appellant;

Notice of Citing means a notice of alleged incidents of a breach or breaches of Laws of the Game made in writing to the Union;

Ordered Off means when a Player is sent off the playing enclosure permanently by the Referee and can take no further part in the Match in which he is Ordered Off;

Person means any Player, Referee, Assistant Referee or other Match official, selector, coach, trainer, manager, medical officer, physiotherapist or other team official, or any individual who is or has been at any time involved in the organisation, administration or promotion of rugby including a director, other officer or employee of the Union, or any member or associate member of the Union;

Player means a player playing a Match;

Player's Club means the club or school the Player was representing at the time of the Incident;

Referee means a UAERR appointed Match referee officiating in the Match in which the Incident took place;

Referee's Report and **Assistant Referee's Report** mean respectively reports in writing submitted by a Referee or an Assistant Referee to the Union;

Rugby Manager means the person appointed by the Union as a disciplinary administrator from time to time;

Temporary Suspension means suspension for a period of ten minutes playing time (which is spent in the sin bin) for a Player who has been cautioned by a Referee in a Match and temporarily sent off the playing enclosure;

UAERF or **Union** means the UAE Rugby Federation;

UAERR means the UAE Rugby Referees Society;

Union Committee means the Union Committee established under the Union's Articles of Federation.

UAERF Regulations means any regulations set out by the UAERF or ARFU in accordance to each competition;

WR means World Rugby;

The use of the singular includes the plural and vice versa; and the use of any gender includes the other gender.



DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES

1. Discipline

1.1 Definitions

The definitions set out above shall apply to these Disciplinary Regulations

1.2 Jurisdiction

1.2.1 Where a Person or Club

1.2.1.1 is alleged to have breached WR or UAERF Regulations; or

1.2.1.2 in a Match administered or organised by the Union is:

- (a) Ordered Off the playing enclosure in a Match (Red Card) (Regulation 2); or
- (b) has been Temporarily Suspended in accordance with Regulation 3 (Accumulated Yellow Cards); or
- (c) cited for an act or acts of Foul Play (Citing) (Regulation 4);

the Union shall appoint a Judicial Officer or set up a Disciplinary Committee for such Incident. The Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee shall have power to act in the name of the Union to hear and determine disciplinary proceedings within its jurisdiction in accordance with these Disciplinary Regulations and WR Regulations.

1.2.2 Any Person being dealt with under Regulation 1.2.1.1 and where the WR has deemed that Person's continued involvement in the Game in any capacity pending final determination by the relevant authority to be inappropriate and/or potentially prejudicial to the image and reputation of the sport under WR Regulation 17.26.1 shall be provisionally suspended from any involvement in the sport.

1.2.3 Any Player being dealt with under Regulations 2, 3 and/or 4.1.2 is not entitled to play the Game (or any form thereof) or be involved in any on-field Match day activities anywhere in the world until his case has been finally resolved A suspended Player who elects to appeal may not take part or be selected for any further Match until his case has been dealt with by an Appeal Committee or Appeal Officer or the expiry of his suspension whichever occurs earlier.

1.2.4 Any Player being dealt with under Regulation 4.2 shall not be provisionally suspended pending the hearing of the case.

2. Procedures following an Ordering Off

2.1 Reporting Procedures



2.1.1 Where a Player is Ordered Off the playing enclosure in a Match, the Referee shall, within 48 hours of the completion of the Match, or such further time as is necessary in the circumstances, send to the Rugby Manager a Referee's Report incorporating:

- the date of the Match, the venue and the teams participating;
- the name of the Player Ordered Off and the Player's Club;
- the circumstances in which the Player was Ordered Off;
- the reason for the Player being Ordered Off; and
- Any other information the Referee considers relevant.

2.1.2 Where the Player is Ordered Off the playing enclosure as a result of the intervention of an Assistant Referee, the Assistant Referee shall, within 48 hours of the completion of the Match, or such further time as is necessary in the circumstances, send to the Rugby Manager an Assistant Referee's Report incorporating the matters referred to in Regulation 2.1.1.

2.1.3 The Referee's Report and the Assistant Referee's Report shall be made where possible using the Union's Ordering Off forms. The Rugby Manager will keep records of all the reports submitted.

2.2 The Hearing

2.2.1 The Player Ordered Off shall be required to appear before a Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee and the Hearing shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures set out in Regulation 5.

3. Accumulated Yellow Cards Procedure

3.1 Three yellow cards during a single season

3.2.1 A Player who receives three yellow cards during a single season shall be required to appear at a Hearing before a Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee, which shall be convened in accordance with Regulation 5. The Player shall be notified:-

- that the purpose of the Hearing is to consider whether any further penalty should be imposed on him for his persistent offending;
- that he may be represented by a representative of the Player's Club and/or the Player's legal representative (if any);
- that save where the Player has given notice of his intention to challenge a Temporary Suspension within the time period specified in WR Regulation 17.25.2(c) and in the absence of exceptional circumstances relating to the failure to give the prescribed notice, no evidence will be heard other than on the question of sanction;
- the identity of the Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee, as the case may be; and
- that the Player shall not be permitted to play in any Match and shall be suspended from all on-field activities on Match days anywhere in the world pending the outcome of his case.



3.2 The Hearing

The Hearing shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures set out in Regulation 5.

3.3 Yellow cards already taken into account by Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee

If a Player is sent off by reason of having received two yellow cards in one Match and as a result of that Ordering Off, a Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee deals with that incident, then the two yellow cards in question will not be counted for the purposes of any computation or action under Regulation 3.2.

4. Citing Procedures

4.1 Who May Cite?

4.1.1 Where no Citing Commissioner is appointed for the Match the procedure will be as follows:

Each Club participating in a Match or an official of the Union present at the Match, may cite:

- (a) a Player(s) for an act(s) of alleged Foul Play committed during that Match provided that such act(s) have not been detected by the Referee or Assistant Referees;
- (b) a Player for more than one incident of alleged Foul Play in the same Match; and
- (c) more than one Player in any Match

4.1.2 Where a Citing Commissioner is appointed for the Match the Citing Commissioner may cite a Player to the Union and the procedure will be as follows:

4.1.2.1 The Citing Commissioner shall be entitled to cite a Player for any act(s) of Foul Play which in the opinion of the Citing Commissioner warranted the Player concerned being Ordered Off;

4.1.2.2 The Citing Commissioner may cite a Player for an act(s) of Foul Play even where such act(s) may have been detected by the Referee or Assistant Referees and which may have been the subject of Referee action. The Citing Commissioner may not cite a Player for an act(s) of Foul Play in respect of which the Player has been Ordered Off save where the Ordering Off is as a result of two yellow cards. A Player in that situation may also be cited for the act(s) of Foul Play which resulted in either or both yellow cards;

4.1.2.3 A Player may be cited by the Citing Commissioner if he has been Temporarily Suspended. Such Citing may be made in respect of the Incident(s) for which the Player was Temporarily Suspended or otherwise;



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4.1.2.4 Citing Commissioners shall act independently of the Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee and of the Referee and/or Assistant Referees of a Match;

4.1.2.5 Where a Citing Commissioner has been appointed for a Match, the persons referred to in Regulation 4.1.1 shall not have the power to cite a Player for Foul Play but may refer any Incident to the Citing Commissioner for consideration provided such Incident is referred to the Citing Commissioner within 12 hours of the completion of the Match in which the Incident is alleged to have occurred. A Citing

Commissioner's

decision as to whether a Player should be cited (or not, as the case maybe), whether as the result of an Incident referred to him or otherwise shall be final;

4.1.2.6 Citing Commissioners shall be in attendance at the Match for which they are appointed to act as Citing Commissioner save in circumstances where a suitably qualified and independent Citing Commissioner Liaison Officer is in attendance at the Match and is able to provide the Citing Commissioner with the relevant information and back-up required in accordance with the applicable timeframes to allow the Citing Commissioner to discharge his duties in accordance with WR Regulation 17.

4.1.2.7 Subject to WR Regulations 17.15.3 and 17.15.4, a Citing Complaint by a Citing Commissioner must be sent in writing to the Rugby Manager within ordinarily a minimum of 12 hours and no later than a maximum of 48 hours of the completion of the Match. For the purposes of this Regulation 4.1.2.7, a citing complaint is deemed to be sent when:

- it is transmitted by facsimile or email provided that timed and confirmed notice of transmission can be provided; or
- if transmitted by some other means, when it is received by the Rugby Manager.

4.1.2.8 In circumstances where a Player has not been cited within the time periods specified in Regulation 4.1.2.7 as a result of either:

- mistaken identity; and/or
- circumstances exist where the nature of the Incident(s) concerned is such that further investigation is needed to identify the Player(s) alleged to have committed an act(s) of Foul Play; and/or
- circumstances exist where the nature of the Incident (s) concerned is such that it is necessary to further investigate and establish the full nature of the alleged act(s) of Foul Play;

Then the Citing Commissioner may seek the leave of a duly appointed Disciplinary Committee or Judicial Officer to extend the citing period, however, any such extension will not in any event exceed 12 days from the last date otherwise permitted in Regulation 4.1.2.7

4.1.2.9 The Citing Complaint should ordinarily contain the following information:

- the date and place of the Incident;
- the name of the Player in respect of whom the complaint is made and the Club he was playing for at the time of the Incident;



- (c) the name of the opposing Club; and
(d) details of the alleged Foul Play including brief details of the evidence relied upon.

4.1.2.10 All Persons requested to provide reports and/or information must do so within the timescale requested or seek more time if required from the Citing Commissioner. Failure to provide the information and/or reports sought by the Citing Commissioner or his nominee may, in the absence of a reasonable explanation, constitute Misconduct as defined in WR Regulation 20.

4.1.2.11 The Citing Commissioner or his nominee (who may be the Citing Commissioner Liaison Officer) must obtain such reports and information as he considers necessary in relation to the cited Incident. The Citing Commissioner shall provide the documents and televisual evidence (where available) to the Rugby Manager who shall in turn forward them to the Player and other parties who were provided with a copy of the citing complaint including the relevant match officials.

4.1.2.12 The Rugby Manager shall arrange for the reports and related evidence in relation to the matter to be provided, as soon as possible, to the Player and members of the Disciplinary Committee or Judicial Officer that will hear the case. The Player subject to a citing complaint shall be advised that he is not eligible to play in any Match anywhere in the world and shall be suspended from all on-field activities on Match days pending resolution of the case.

4.1.3 Regulations 4.2, 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5 only apply to a Citing under Regulation 4.1.1

4.2 Requirements of the Citing Complaint

4.2.1 The Citing Complaint must be in writing and signed by the chairman or secretary or equivalent official of the Complainant Club or the Union official seeking to cite.

4.2.2 The Citing Complaint must be addressed to the Rugby Manager and delivered to the office of the Union not later than 48 hours after the completion of the Match in which the Incident occurred. All materials to be submitted in support of the Citing Complaint must be submitted to the Rugby Manager and delivered to the office of the Union as soon as possible and in any event not later than 5:00p.m. Gulf Standard Time on the fourth business day following the Match in which the Incident occurred.

4.2.3 The Union and the Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee will not consider a Citing Complaint which is received after the expiry of the prescribed time limit in Regulation 4.2.2.

4.2.4 The time limit prescribed in Regulation 4.2.2 does not apply to any material produced by the Player or on his behalf.



4.3 Details to be included in the Citing Complaint

4.3.1 The Citing Complaint must consist of:

- (a) the date and place of the alleged Foul Play;
- (b) the name of the Player in respect of whom the complaint is made and the Club he was playing for at the time of the alleged Foul Play;
- (c) the name of the opposing Club; and
- (d) details of the alleged Foul Play including brief details of the evidence relied upon
- (e) Be accompanied by the written, signed and dated statements of any witnesses of the Incident together with any other documents or materials to be relied upon if available (such as photographs, medical reports etc);
- (f) Be accompanied by two copies of audio visual evidence if available.

4.3.2 Where made by a Complainant Club, the Citing Complaint must be accompanied by the Deposit to cover administrative expenses. If the Citing Complaint is accepted by the Rugby Manager and the Incident is proved, then the Deposit will be returned to the Complainant Club. If, however, the Citing Complaint is rejected by the Rugby Manager, the whole or part of it shall be reimbursed as the Rugby Manager considers, in his absolute discretion, to be just and equitable. If the Citing Complaint is accepted and the Incident is not proved at a Hearing, the whole or part only of the Deposit shall be reimbursed as the Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee considers, in its absolute discretion, to be just and equitable.

4.4 The procedure following the delivery of the Citing Complaint

4.4.1 Upon receipt of a Citing Complaint (and accompanying materials), the Rugby Manager shall as soon as practicable consult the Referee and any Assistant Referee to consider whether the Incident was seen by them during the Match.

4.4.2 Following such consultation, the Referee and any Assistant Referee shall each produce a brief written report of the Incident.

4.4.3 If the Referee or any Assistant Referee saw the Incident which is the subject of the Citing, the Citing Complaint shall be void and no further action shall be taken in response to it by the Union, other than sending a written advice to the Complainant Club (if any), the Player and his Club, stating that the Citing Complaint is void and the reason.

4.5 Decision of the Rugby Manager

4.5.1 Provided that the Incident was not seen by the Referee or any Assistant Referee, the Rugby Manager shall consider whether the submission of the Citing Complaint and all accompanying materials comply with these Citing procedures. The Rugby Manager shall not accept any oral representations by any party in connection with the



Citing complaint.

4.5.2 The Rugby Manager shall decide whether, upon an inspection of the materials presented, the Citing Complaint should be referred to the Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee or whether it should be dismissed. The Rugby Manager shall do so by determining if it has been established that the Incident was of such seriousness that the Player would have been Ordered Off the playing enclosure with a Red Card.

4.5.3 The Rugby Manager shall notify the Complainant Club (if any), and the Player and his Club, of his Decision within seven days of receipt of the written report(s) of the Referee and/or Assistant Referee(s).

4.5.4 The Decision shall be accompanied by copies of the Citing Complaint, copies of all accompanying materials and the written report(s) of the Referee and/or Assistant Referee(s).

4.5.5 If the Rugby Manager has decided that the matter should be referred to the Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee the Rugby Manager shall ensure that a Judicial Officer is appointed or Disciplinary Committee is convened as soon as reasonably practicable to hear the Citing Complaint.

4.5.6 If the Rugby Manager has decided that the matter should not be referred to the Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee, the Complainant Club or the official of the Union who submitted the Citing Complaint may ask the Union's Board of Directors to review the Decision. The Board of Directors shall select a person to undertake the review who

(a) is a Judicial Officer on the International Panels of either WR or Asia Rugby Football Union; and

(b) who does not have a conflict of interest regarding the Citing.

The person reviewing the Decision shall consider all the materials provided by the Rugby Manager and promptly make his recommendation to the Board of Directors if the matter should or should not be referred to a Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee for full consideration.

4.6 The Hearing

A Hearing shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures set out in Regulation 5. At any hearing of a Citing Complaint a representative of the Complainant Club or the official of the Union who submitted the Citing Complaint must be in attendance, failing which the Citing Complaint will be dismissed.



5. Disciplinary Hearings

5.1 Appointment of the Judicial Officer or the Disciplinary Committee

5.1.1 Upon:

- (a) receipt of a Referee's Report and/or Assistant Referee's Report made in accordance with Regulation 2; or
 - (b) the accumulation by a Player of three yellow cards during a single season under Regulation 3; or
 - (c) receipt of a Rugby Manager's Decision to refer a Citing Complaint under Regulation 4.5.
 - (d) receipt of a Citing Commissioner's Citing Complaint under Regulation 4.1.2.7
- the Union shall as soon as reasonably practicable appoint a Judicial Officer or a Disciplinary Committee . Subject to Regulations 5.1.2 and 5.1.3, the Union shall have complete discretion in the appointment of the Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee .

5.1.2 No member of the Player's Club, the Player who was the victim of the Incident or a complainant shall be the Judicial Officer or Chairman or a member of the Disciplinary Committee.

5.1.3 The Judicial Officer or Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee shall be a senior legal practitioner of at least seven years standing or a serving or retired judge who shall have previous experience in rugby disciplinary proceedings, an in-depth knowledge of the Game and a member of the UAERF Judicial Panel.

5.2 Notice to the Player and his Club

5.2.1 During a Hearing, the Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee shall sit to hear the evidence and arguments submitted by the relevant parties in relation to the disciplinary charge(s) brought against the Player. The Hearing shall be held as soon as possible after the Match or Matches in which the Incident is alleged to have taken place.

5.2.2 Prior to a Hearing, the Rugby Manager shall supply the Player with (as appropriate) a copy of the Referee's Report and/or Assistant Referee's Report any other relevant evidence and these Regulations. The Rugby Manager shall advise the Player:

- (a) of the date, place and time of the Hearing and the identity of the Judicial Officer or members of the Disciplinary Committee ;
- (b) that he will be required to attend in person at the Hearing (which may include attendance by telephone or audio-visual means at the discretion of the Judicial Officer or Chairman;
- (c) that, if the Player is unable to appear at the Hearing, he should advise the Rugby Manager as soon as practicable;



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(d) that he is entitled to adduce evidence (save that no evidence may be adduced if the Hearing is being held under Regulation 3 unless the exception in Regulation 3.1.(c) applies) and make submissions and be represented by a representative of the Player's Club and/or the Player's legal advisor;

(e) that he is not eligible to play in any Match anywhere in the world and shall be suspended from all on-field activities on Match days pending resolution of the case (save that this provision does not apply if the Hearing is being held under Regulation 4.1).

5.2.3 In respect of proceedings brought under Regulation 3, prior to the Hearing, the Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee shall be entitled (but not obliged) to call for and receive the relevant yellow card reports from the Referees and/or Assistant Referees. If the Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee requests such reports, the Rugby Manager shall supply the Judicial Officer or Disciplinary Committee and the Player with copies.

5.2.4 The Rugby Manager shall, simultaneously, send copies of all the Union's communications with the Player to the secretary of that Player's Club.

5.3 Procedure

The procedures and powers of the Judicial Officer and the Disciplinary Committee in connection with jurisdiction, process and evidential matters relating to hearings shall be as set out in WR Regulations 17.18, 18 and Appendix 1 of WR Regulation 18 as amended where necessary.

6. Appeals Procedure

6.1 The procedure for Appeals shall be as set out in WR Regulations 17.22, 18 and Appendix 1 of WR Regulation 18 as amended where necessary.

6.2 The Notice of Appeal must be submitted to the Rugby Manager with the Deposit.