**Section 1**

Any player involved or engaged with the intent to fight will be automatically suspended for the remainder of the season. Players can appeal this to the disciplinary committee. Intent to fight will be defined as instigating, taunting, or verbal abuse of another player with the intent to provoke a response. Fighting will be defined as a physical altercation between two or more players.

Any player leaving the bench due to engage in the altercation on the field will be suspended. Additionally, any incident where player benches are cleared to participate in a fight will also be subject to team disqualification for the remainder of the season or playoffs. Players and teams can appeal this to the disciplinary committee.

The welfare of the officials before, during and after the match will always be the leagues priority. Any individual who confronts a referee before, during or after a match in an aggressive and threatening way will be subject to immediate league discipline. Any confrontation with a referee in the parking lot or outside the field of play will also be subject to immediate league discipline.

Any serious infraction against a referee can result in an immediate dismissal from the league. This is an SVSL and IFAB rule.

These actions and more will be outlined in the Code of Conduct that every player must sign at the start of each season. Disciplinary actions by the league are managed by the Disciplinary Committee.

**Section 2**

The league employs a yellow card accumulation rule. Each yellow is $10 fine. When a player receives his or her third yellow card of the season the player will be fined $25 and will be automatically suspended for 1 game. The number of yellow cards will be wiped clean upon the completion of the playoff semi-finals. If a player receives his or her third yellow card during the semifinal game that player will be suspended for the championship and the $25 fine will be assessed.

Players who continually receive yellow cards may be subject to further disciplinary action determined by the disciplinary committee.

Any yellow card can be subject to review and maybe elevated to a red card if the league and the officials determine that the offense warrants escalation.

**Section 3**

Players receiving a red card must leave the playing field and sidelines immediately. Play will be suspended until the player is out of sight and sound from the playing fields.

If a player refuses to leave the area and continues to be aggressive from outside the fence line the match can be abandoned, and the red carded player’s team will forfeit for the match.

If the above actions occur, the team may be assessed an additional $25 team fine. Teams will forfeit every match until the fine is paid. The disciplinary committee will determine if a team fine is necessary for the situation. Team representatives are responsible for their player’s actions and must be able to control their team’s behavior on and off the field.

Players receiving a red card will have their player pass held by the referee. They will be subject to a minimum $25 fine (which must be paid in full to the Registrar NLT 6pm on the Thursday before the player’s next game is played) and a one game suspension. They will be automatically subject to review by the Disciplinary committee which may take further action if deemed necessary. Disciplinary action may include but is not limited to banishment from the SVSL.

Red card suspensions will carry over from season to season (i.e. If a player receives a red card during the last game of a season, that player will carry out his/her suspension during the first game of the next season for which the player is registered.)

Any red cards issued during a game will be reviewed by the disciplinary committee for possible additional game suspensions. Players can appeal this to the disciplinary committee. While the appeal is being reviewed the player will only serve the one game suspension until a final decision is made.

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**Section 4**

Conduct Detrimental to the SVSL. A player or team may be subject to disciplinary action by the Disciplinary Committee and Board of Directors for conduct detrimental to the SVSL or the game. The Disciplinary committee will initiate an investigation of such behavior upon the request of the Board of Directors. It may also undertake an investigation on its own.

**Section 5**

Conduct of Spectators. Each Team Representative is responsible for the actions of their players and spectators during the game. A team’s failure to ensure that the conduct of its players and spectators adheres to the spirit of the league and the rules and regulations may result in disciplinary action for the team as determined by the Disciplinary Committee and Board of Directors. The following are examples of inappropriate sideline behavior: Foul Language in any language directed at opposing players or officials, fighting, taunting, entering the field of play, throwing objects, and inciting or applauding violent behavior on the field. These are just examples and other behaviors related to these actions are also considered inappropriate behavior.

**Section 6**

A disciplinary appeal must be:

* Presented in writing within 48 hours of the incident to the Vice President.
* The appeal must include details of the game, incident, player(s) involved, desired outcome, and date of next game.

The Disciplinary Committee must notify the other parties involved and prepare written documentation of its decision within 72 hours or before the next scheduled game (whichever is greater) after receipt of the appeal. This written documentation is considered the official decisions of the Committee.

Decisions of the Disciplinary committee may be appealed to the Board of Directors. Such an appeal must be submitted to the President within 48 hours.

Appeals of decisions of the Executive Committee can be filed with the Arizona State Soccer Association under provisions of the appropriate regulations governing affiliated leagues.

**Section 7**

See US Soccer Policy 531-9 Penalty Overview / Youth & Amateur