# Discipline Policy

Royal York Football Club follows a strict set of Discipline Policies and Procedures set out by the Ontario Soccer Association. It is the responsibility of every RYFC member to educate themselves on the OSA rules regarding discipline and appeals. This information can be found on the OSA website at: OSA Policy: Section 9.0 Discipline.

**Discipline Committee**

Grassroots Programs: RYFC Discipline Committee is composed of Discipline chair and technical director, director of football and club director. All committee members are familiar with OSA Discipline Policies  Association and are fully qualified to oversee the process.

Rep Program: All of the regional and provincial leagues have their own discipline procedures. We recommend that coaches and team officials familiarize themselves with their respective processes. Royal York Football Club does provide support at the hearing stage and we will do our best to answer any questions that may arise at the team level.

**Yellow/Red Cards**

Yellow – Two yellow cards in the same game is an automatic dismissal (red card). Three yellow cards in the same playing season result in a 1 game suspension. Four yellow cards in the same playing season result in no suspension. Five yellow cards in the same playing season result in a 2 game suspension.

Red – If a player is shown a red card but has not received any notification of suspension, they are allowed to play until notified otherwise. Referees have up to five days to submit a report, and the club has 30 days to act, so please do NOT assume that the suspension automatically takes place the following game.

**Discipline by Review**

Less serious charges as per the OSA discipline policies, section 9.0. Registrant is found either guilty or not guilty and there is NO APPEAL once the decision is rendered.

**Discipline by Hearing**

More serious charges as per the OSA discipline policies, section 9.0. The player charged is requested to attend a hearing before a panel of three RYFC Discipline Committee members. A hearing date will be set within the time lines under the process required by the OSA. The Panel will render a decision resulting in either guilty (could result in ban from ALL soccer related activity), or not guilty.

Appeals are allowed after a hearing, but are made to the Ontario Soccer Association.

**Special Incident**

Reports filed as a result of incidents that take place on or off the field that are outside of the standard 'laws of the game' guidelines. Incidents include: verbal abuse by team officials, spectator behaviour, weather issues etc.

**Special Note:**

Any team official who for whatever reason during a game pulls his/her team off the field will be subject to disciplinary action depending on the Discipline Committee findings. Royal York FC's Discipline Policy.

Teams will be held responsible if a game is abandoned because of the actions of its players, officials or spectators and will be subject to a disciplinary hearing. If the team is found guilty it shall forfeit the game and will be fined as per findings of the Discipline Committee. Forfeits will be recorded as 1:0 loss by default

**Referee Assault**

Referee reports are immediately filed to the Toronto Soccer Association. The accused player is suspended immediately from playing pending the hearing at TSA.

**Appeal Process**

For discipline cases which fall under the Discipline by Review policy of the Ontario Soccer Association, the accused has the right to request that their case be dealt with under the Discipline by Hearing system should they believe the dismissal was unwarranted.

The request for a hearing after a case dismissal (under Discipline by review) must be received in writing within 72 hours of receiving the dismissal. It must be accompanied by the request for hearing fee of $100.00.

Remember that you are appealing the dismissal, and there is no appeal once the decision after a hearing has been rendered. The $100.00 fee is refundable only if the appeal is successful.

Note: Royal York Football Club will only deal with discipline complaints filed in writing and signed. Anonymous complaints will not be considered.

Note: you cannot appeal two yellow cards that resulted in a red card.

**Protests**

Game protests based upon the referee's interpretation of the 'laws of the game' will not be considered. Referee decisions are final and cannot be overturned. Protests can only be made on the basis that rules of Royal York Football Club or Ontario Soccer Association have been broken.

Protests must be submitted in writing and accompanied by a fee of $100.00 which is refundable in the event that the protest is successful.

**Royal York Football Club works consistently to ensure that all participants have a positive experience during their soccer activities regardless of whether they are players or spectators.**