

In an extraordinary meeting, the Board of USL NJ reviewed two issues that required immediate attention due to the impact of the welfare of the referees and the health of the Master division players. The following amendments were approved by the Board for immediate implementation and incorporation into the Rules and Penalty Chart.

AMENDMENT #1

| Rule No. | Form of Infraction | Card Level | Original game ban | New game ban |
|--|---|------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| VERBAL INFRACTIONS (ALL DIVISIONS): | | | | |
| 04 | Offensive language to referee | Red card | 3 | |
| 05 | Persistent offensive language to referee | Red card | NEW | 6 |
| PHYSICAL INFRACTIONS (ALL DIVISIONS): | | | | |
| 11 | Physical threat to referee through physical or verbal action | Red card | 6 | 10 |
| 13 | Physical non-consensual contact with referee | Red card | 10 upon review | Lifetime ban |

AMENDMENT #2

ORIGINAL VERSION - Section 12(b)(iii)

Slide tackles are not permitted in the Senior Division. To the extent a player in the Senior Division performs a proper slide tackle, the sanction shall be an indirect free kick from the site of the infraction. If the player has committed an improper foul slide tackle, the referee is empowered to impose an appropriate sanction, including, without limitation, the issuance of a yellow or red card and the awarding of a direct free kick or penalty kick, as the circumstances warrant. A sliding maneuver to, for example, keep the ball from leaving the field of play, shall not be deemed to be a “slide tackle” by the Referee for purposes of this Rule provided that, in the Referee’s sole judgment, no player of the opposing team is within playing distance of the ball when the sliding maneuver is initiated.

NEW VERSION - new language in **red**

Slide tackles are not permitted in the **Master** Division. To the extent a player in the **Master** Division performs a proper slide tackle, the sanction shall be a **direct** free kick from the site of the infraction **and the issuance of a yellow card**. If the player has committed an improper foul slide tackle, the referee **shall issue a red card and award** a direct free kick or penalty kick. **A “proper slide tackle” is defined as a tackle which would not be considered a foul under normal rules.** A sliding maneuver to, for example, keep the ball from leaving the field of play, shall not be deemed to be a “slide tackle” by the Referee for purposes of this Rule, provided that, in the Referee’s sole judgment, no player of the opposing team is within playing distance of the ball when the sliding maneuver is initiated.