

# UNITED SOCCER LEAGUE

## RULES OF CONDUCT PENALTY GUIDELINES

As a general rule, all participants' conduct is subject to the current FIFA and USSF Laws of the Game, except as expressly modified by the United Soccer League (USL) Rules of Competition and will be judged according to FIFA and USSF standards as modified by the United Soccer League (USL) Rules of Competition and these Rules of Conduct. In the spirit of the game, the following guidelines shall be used when determining suspensions and other penalties. Please refer to the USL Rules of Competition for general information regarding the conduct of individuals. Please note suspensions are not to be counted during forfeits and, or postponements. Below are some of the penalties that will be levied for infractions:

item	description	penalty	suspension
<b>VERBAL INFRACTIONS (ALL DIVISIONS):</b>			
01	Arguing	Yellow card	
02	Delay of game (discretion of referee, but minimum)	Yellow card	
03	Offensive language to other player, spectator, manager	Red card	1 game minimum
04	Offensive language to referee	Red card	3 game minimum
05	Cursing at other player, spectator, manager, referee	Red card	3 game minimum
<b>PHYSICAL INFRACTIONS (ALL DIVISIONS):</b>			
06	Spitting at another player, spectator, manager , referee	Red card	6 game minimum
07	Serious foul play or violent conduct per IFAB definitions	Red Card	4 game minimum, \$100 fine first offense, fine increases with subsequent offenses
08	Retaliation/kicking another player, spectator, manager	Red card	3 game minimum
09	Fighting	Red card	6 game minimum
10	Physical threat to another player, spectator, manager	Red card	3 game minimum
11	Physical threat to referee	Red card	6 game minimum
12	Fighting/retaliation that results in serious injury	Red card	10 game, review
13	Pushing/shoving referee	Red card	10 game, review
14	Refusing to leave the field immediately upon issuance of a red card (straight red or secondary caution)	1 additional game suspension and \$100 fine	
15	Second caution in same game (i.e., two yellow cards)	Red Card; 1 game	
16	Foul, abusive or offensive language or gestures	Red card; 3 games	

17	DOGSO (Denying Obvious Goal Scoring Opportunity) by handling or by committing a foul	Red Card; 1 game
<b>OVER 50 – SENIOR DIVISIONS ONLY:</b>		
15	What would otherwise be a legal, clean tackle in any other division it is not permitted in the Senior Divisions	Indirect free kick
16	Slide tackle resulting in the awarding of a direct free kick or penalty kick	Yellow or red card at referee's discretion

Note:

- Players who receive a yellow card in a game are suspended for 10 minutes from the game,
- Players who receive a yellow card in two consecutive games are suspended for 1 game,
- Players who receive 4 yellow cards in a yearly season are suspended for 1 game,
- Players who receive 3 or more red cards in a yearly season must appear before the Board,

All infractions will be reviewed by the Conduct Committee and if necessary, the Competition Committee. It will be the responsibility of the Team Captain and, or Manager of the offending player to contact the Conduct Committee Chairman to discuss any details pertinent to the infraction(s) prior to the next scheduled game. In addition to the discussion with the Team Captain and, or Manager, the referee report will also be used to determine what penalties/suspensions should be assessed based on the infraction(s) committed. If there is no contact made by the Team Captain and, or Manager, then the penalties assessed will be based on the information on the referee's report, using the guideline above. Any questions or clarifications can be directed to the Conduct Committee.

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