

**Section S**

**ASSOCIATION ADOPTED POLICIES**

**2201 Subject: Use of Foul Language, etc.**

**Adoption Date: August 26, 2003**

**Decision:**

- a) A player using foul language at disgust him/herself for making a mistake while playing – recommendation: verbal warning
- b) A player using foul or abusive language toward another player – recommendation: caution (yellow card)
- c) A player using foul or abusive language toward the official or people on the sidelines – recommendation: ejection (red card)
- d) A member of a Team on the sideline using foul or abusive language toward an individual on the field of play – recommendation: ejection or removal (red card)

Please note that any individual who has been ejected must immediately leave the field, as instructed by the game officials. The ejected person does not dictate how far away is sufficient, it is determined by the game officials!

**Rationale:**

At times both players and referees are confused as what is acceptable or not acceptable in regard to the usage of foul and/or abuse language. To find some consistency in the application the rules, the Association has recommended the above policy as a guideline both players and referees.

**2202 Subject: Referee Evaluations by Teams**

**Adoption Date: May 17, 2004**

**Decision:**

- 1. A report must be done via E-mail and send to: [utah-soccer@utahsoccer.org](mailto:utah-soccer@utahsoccer.org) - Subject: Referee Discussion
- 2. The report must include the game number, date, both teams, field and time on the top of your report.
- 3. The report must come from a team representative or alternate as listed on your team registration form.
- 4. Reports received from individual players will not be included. You, as team representative, will be the first line of screening and objectivity.
- 5. A report, which warrants to be forwarded to a referee in-service session, will be forwarded as written. Usage of correct English and spell check are strong recommendations.
- 6. Report what you need - highly recommend not making it personal, dealing with the facts.
- 7. Do not expect an answer back. Your report will be reviewed and dealt with accordingly. At times they will just be filed. Those reports are still extremely important, as in a number of cases we will be able to build consistency in problem areas with those officials.

**Rationale:**

As we continue the games this spring, it is becoming more apparent that we have a number of officials that are not familiar with the rules of the Association, and yes, at times also confused with the laws of the game and its interpretation. Although the odds are that they still know the rules better than nearly all of our membership, there are these occasions where these folks pull decisions out of their hats that, to most of us, are incredible. There are also times where their professionalism has been called to question and leave the team with a feeling that they are above repercussion. For a number of years I have been trying to figure out ways to correct some of these problems and quite honestly I am at a loss. Besides the fact

that we need more of our players to get involved in officiating, so by the time they hang up their shoes, they have completed their apprenticeship and are ready to deal with the upper level games, our problems will most likely continue to be what they are.

With this in mind, I would like to set up some sort of communication line where I would like only team representative's report incidents of strange and off-the-wall occurrences or those that raise the brows, but yet could be helpful in correcting either an individual or a group of officials in their application of policies, procedures and application of the laws. This should not be construed that even player on a team starts writing their complaints why they didn't deserve that red card, etc. We need to see valid points that are worthwhile in your evaluation of a referee crew for your particular game. Make sure you know your facts. I want to have this done in such manner that these reports can be forwarded to the referee in-service meetings so that that we have a number of officials that are not familiar games this spring, it is becoming more apparent with rules of the Association, and yes, at times also confused with the laws of the game and its these issues can be addressed.

**2203**

**Subject:                   Membership Card**

**Adoption Date:           September 29, 2004 (Revised March 12, 2012)**

**Decision:**

At the end of each game, it will be the referee's responsibility to ask each team representative, or the same person who initially gave the cards to the referee prior to and during the game, to count all of the cards that are being returned to the respective team representative. Once it is agreed that all membership cards are accounted for that particular team, that team representative must acknowledge in writing, on the back of the game roster that was supplied to the game officials prior to the game, that all of their cards are actually accounted for. This needs to be done by simply writing "all membership cards received" along with the team representative's printed and signed name.

**Rationale:**

Membership Cards. Due to the fact that we constantly have cards that are mysteriously being lost at games, the above policy has been adopted.

**2204**

**Subject:                   Uniforms**

**Adopted Date:           September 29, 2004**

**Decision:**

- a)       Jerseys - all the same, with minimum eight inch numbers on the back
- b)       Shorts - all the same color, trim may vary
- c)       Socks - all the same color, trim may vary

**Rationale:**

It has come to our attention that for our league play, many teams are getting fairly sloppy with their uniforms. For those concerned, this is your friendly reminder that your team's uniforms need to be the same.

This is your official notice that the Association will ask the referees to remind you which players are not in proper uniform throughout the remainder of this Fall Season, although it is believed that you actually do know. Starting with the first game of the 2005 Spring Season, the referees will be instructed to send players off the field who do not meet the minimum uniform requirements. Take inventory of your uniforms now, purchase what you need, but get it done whether it means purchasing a new set or filling in. This gives you nearly six months to get this done! Additionally, a number of teams do not have a back up set of uniforms.

On the schedule, the first team listed is the home team. Home teams are required to change if there is a uniform conflict. If you do not have a secondary set, you run the risk of forfeiting the game which will then cost you money that could have bought you that second set

If you desire, the Association is willing to help you in obtaining secondary uniforms at a minimal cost. If you need regular uniforms, our Association sponsor, Team Gear International (304-9999), will be able to help you with all your needs.

2205

**Subject: Shinguards**

**Adoption Date: September 29, 2004**

**Decision:**

Shinguard need to amply protect the lower leg, meaning: from a couple of inches below the knee to a couple of inches above the ankle.

**Rationale:**

The State Referee Committee has brought it to our attention that there are players who are wearing what is considered "mini shinguards." The USSF has instructed referees to remove players from the field with these mini shinguards. This is to not only protect the referees in their liability insurance coverage, but also you as a team representative. If they allow the mini shinguards it could be considered to be negligent. With that in mind, if you have players who are not wearing full size shinguards, please make them aware that it is time to get new shinguards immediately. Referees are not obligated to allow players to play with mini shinguards.

2206

**Subject: Allotted Game Times**

**Adopted Date: February 27, 2005**

**Decision:**

- a) Each game has a 2-hour time frame, which includes a 15 minute change over period.
- b) This leaves one hour and 45 minutes to complete your game.
- c) In case of multiple games on a field wherein there are games scheduled after your game, the referees will be instructed to cut the game time to not exceed the one hour and 45 minutes time frame for your game. The referee will explain the length of each half and the amount of time allotted for the half time.
- d) Lost time, shortened halves, half time should always add up to 105 minutes, unless weather related problems arise.
- e) In case of overtime penalty kicks, teams will immediately go to the center circle and start the penalty kicks as quickly as possible.

**Rationale:**

As you can see by looking at the schedule and for all games on Saturdays throughout the season, the games in most cases are scheduled pretty tight due to the shortage of field space. In order for all us to be able to play, it is imperative that all games must be played in their allotted time frames. This means that games need to start on time and in worst case scenarios, within a few minutes of starting of the starting time. It becomes very important that teams take down their nets IMMEDIATELY after each game, to give the next team ample time to put their net up. It is highly recommended that you inform each player on your team that they need to be ready for check-in at the 15 minute mark before each game. That means your roster is also filled out by that time.

As a recommendation to the referee, the Association would like to see the teams be about 35-40 yards from the goal, instead of the center circle, so that we can cut down the time in between the kicks. Single games and the last games of the day should not have fall under these guidelines in regard to cutting time, etc. It will be very important for those games, which are early morning games on Saturday that they start on time. We are aware that the referees have had the same problem as the team does to get there on

time and start the game at the actual kick-off time. If a team has seven or more players ready, do not wait for the rest that may or may not be in the parking lot. Stall tactics need to be eliminated and do not put the burden on the other team that is ready to play.

**2207 Subject: Team Check In**

**Adopted Date: May 1, 2006**

**Decision:**

- a) The game officials will blow the whistle in the center circle fifteen (15) minutes prior to the start time of the game.
- b) If a game is delayed due to traffic, a preceding game, etc. the procedure in a) may be delayed until the game officials decide to start the pre-game procedures, which shall be fifteen (15) minutes prior to the start of the game.
- c) Both teams must go to the center circle and present a completed copy of their game roster and have the players check in with the game officials.
- d) If the net has not been hung on the goal at that time, this must be accomplished within that fifteen (15) minutes time frame.
- e) Late arriving players may check in at the discretion of the game officials or may have to wait until after the start of the game. Game officials should not delay the start of the game due to a late arriving player.

**Rationale:**

To speed up the process of getting games going on time, the above mentioned policy has been implemented to help both teams and game officials in starting a game in a timely manner with a consistent check in practice that all officials are to use.

**2208 Subject: Suspensions & other disciplinary actions**

**Adoption Date: March 12, 2012**

**Decision:**

Suspension and/or disciplinary action against a member shall become effective upon receipt of the game report and a determination and proper punishment of the stated offense.

**Rationale:**

With the change to administrating everything on-line and the elimination of the old pass system, it is impossible to police ejections from a game, when there is time element involved. For instance, player "A" is ejected in the first game that he/she is playing for the club. However, that player is also registered on Team "B" and their game is scheduled that same day at a different time. The same scenario can happen with games on consecutive days. In the past the referees took their player pass which took care of the problem of that person not being able to play. In this new system there is no mechanism to keep the player from playing as their printed roster shows them being eligible. It is the opinion that any disciplinary action taken will go in effect at the time the decision has been made.

**2209 Subject: Duties of Ad-Hoc Committees**

**Adopted Date: March 12, 2012**

**Decision:**

Publicity Ad-Hoc Committee.

- a) The Publicity Committee shall make and maintain contacts within the news media and keep records of these contacts on file with the Secretary.

- b) The Committee shall ensure that each week's schedule is delivered to the newspapers in time for publication in the papers, which games' results are reported for timely publication, and current standings are reported to the newspapers for weekly publication.
- c) When directed to do so by the President, the Committee shall publicize special events of the Association and assist in publicizing sanctioned events of affiliated organizations, Leagues, and Member Clubs.

Fields Ad-Hoc Committee.

- a) The Fields Committee shall be in charge of locating and the development of new fields, and negotiations involved in obtaining them for the use of the Association.
- b) The Committee shall be responsible for arranging maintenance as it becomes necessary on fields used by the Association.
- c) The Committee shall assist Member Clubs in negotiating for use of fields, and in preparations of these fields for use by the Association.
- d) At the end of each season the Committee shall be responsible for obtaining written commitments from all parties having control over existing fields, stating the days and times the fields will be available for the upcoming season, and what conditions, if any, apply to their use by the Association.

**Rationale:**

Moved from the Bylaws section.

2210

**Subject: Referees**

**Adopted Date: March 12, 2012**

**Decision:**

- a) The Utah Soccer Association recognizes the State Referee Committee (SRC) as the committee that shall be responsible for setting policies and procedures for all referees registered with the USSF.
- b) All referees assigned by the Referee Assignor of the Utah Soccer Association, for any games sanctioned by this Association, must be registered with the USSF and must meet the qualification requirements established by this Association, State Referee Committee, and the USSF.
- c) Assignment of referees shall be by a person appointed by the President of the Utah Soccer Association. The State Referee Administrator shall keep him/her informed as to the status of each registered referee.
- d) Assignment of assessments shall be coordinated by the State Director of Assessment and he/she shall work with the Association's Referee Assignor to ensure proper assignment of games for referees requiring an assessment.
- e) A referee shall prepare game reports immediately following each game and forward all copies except the referee's copy to the Association's office, along with the player rosters of each Team and any membership cards retained by the referee. The report shall include all required information and explanations of any incidents. All cautions and ejections shall be recorded and explained in a technically correct manner and in sufficient detail that a fair decision may be reached by the Disciplinary Committee. Cautions or ejections that are not given for technically correct reasons may be overturned by the Disciplinary Committee.
- f) The referee shall phone the score of each game to the Association office (263-8166) immediately following the last game of the day. Failure to do so will result in a \$5.00 fine and possible other disciplinary action.
- g) Game reports that include returned player passes must be hand delivered or mailed to the Association's office on the same day of the game played.
- h) Game reports which are not delivered or postmarked within two (2) days of the game shall result in a fine of \$5.00. Game reports that are not delivered or postmarked within five (5) days of the game shall result in a fine of \$10.00. Non-submission of a report or a report submitted ten (10) days after a game shall result in a fine which equals the appropriate game fee.
- i) Failure to show or perform for an assigned game shall subject the referee to a fine which equals the appropriate game fee, but no less than \$25.00 and to possible disciplinary actions.

- j) The SRC Chairman shall submit an annual progress report and also submit a report outlining their plans and schedule for the upcoming year. This report is due one month prior to the Utah Soccer Association's Annual General Meeting.
- k) The SRC shall file an Annual Financial Report and Budget to be submitted to the Association at least one month prior to the Association's Annual General Meeting and according to the specification set forth by the Treasurer of the Utah Soccer Association.
- l) The SRC Chairman shall on a semi-annual basis submit a recommended list of referees that in the Committee's opinion are Premiership (UPL) qualified and have met the standards and guidelines set by the Committee, subject to the approval the Association's Board of Directors. The approved list shall be forwarded, within five (5) days of receipt of the list of nominees to the Referee Assignor. Exceptions to this requirement are allowed upon authorization of the Association's President. Assistant Referees need not to be on the list. Games where the above requirements are not met must be reported by the Teams and be dealt with accordingly by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to add or delete individual referees or amend at any time during the Season.
- m) The Board of Directors or the President shall have the authority to overrule assignment of referees if such assignment might cause possible confrontation of any kind.

Referee Evaluations.

- a) Clubs, Teams, or players wishing to make reports on referees, either favorable or unfavorable, should mail a written report with reference to specific incidents to the Chairman or other member of the State Referee Committee. Addresses are available from the Secretary.
- b) The Committee will gather information from various reports and make recommendations to the Board of Directors for further action.

**Rationale:**

Moved from the Bylaws section.

2211

**Subject: Club or Team Representatives Responsibilities**

**Adopted Date: March 12, 2012**

**Decision:**

- a) Club presidents or Representative must inform the Secretary in writing, of any changes of Team Representatives and Alternates, and their addresses and phone numbers.
- b) A Team Representative is responsible to notify the Association of any address, phone number, etc. changes of their members on a quarterly basis.
- c) All traveling trophies will remain in the ownership of the Association. Teams and players who receive recognition in regard to these trophies will have their names engraved onto these trophies. Teams and players will receive another trophy or award to represent their success, which they may keep permanently.
- d) The Team Representative for any Team winning and receiving an Association trophy shall sign a Statement of Liability for any loss or damage sustained by or to the Trophy before its release from the Association. The required date of return of the Trophy shall be included on the Statement of Liability.

**Rationale:**

Moved from the Bylaws section.

2212

**Subject: Player Registration**

**Adopted Date: March 12, 2012**

**Decision:**

Individual player registration fee for an amateur player is as follows:

\$135.00*	Full Season, January 1 to December 31
\$ 90.00*	Partial Season, July 1 to December 31
\$ 65.00*	Partial Season, September 1 to December 31
\$ 40.00*	Partial Season, October 1 to December 31
\$ 90.00*	Over-30/35 Partial Season, July 1 to December 31
\$ 65.00*	Over-30/35 Partial Season, August 1 to December 31
\$ 40.00*	Over-30/35 Partial Season, September 1 to December 31 *
\$ 78.00*	WWSL Spring or Fall Season only
\$ 50.00*	Secondary and/or Tertiary team in another League
\$ 25.00*	Secondary and/or Tertiary team within the same club and League

\* Includes the annual individual cost of the mandatory USASA accident & liability insurance coverage.

**Rationale:**

Moved from the Bylaws section.

2213

**Subject:** Disciplinary Committee (Adhoc)

**Adoption Date:** March 27, 2012

**Decision:**

Disciplinary Committee.

- a) The Disciplinary Committee shall be called to order for cases wherein the Association's Executive Director believes that in a case where misconduct occurred, the punishment anticipated may be over a six (6) games and/or \$100.00 fine. All other misconduct cases, such as ejections, multiple cautioned offences, playing of an illegal player, etc. shall be dealt with by the office staff on an immediate basis as they are received.
- b) The Disciplinary Committee shall maintain records of their hearings which shall be stored at the Association's office.
- c) The Executive Director shall maintain records on all players receiving yellow or red cards, and all other misconduct reported by referees concerning teams, fans, or players.
- d) Upon receiving reports from referees regarding yellow and red cards or other misconduct, the Executive Director or Committee shall determine the disciplinary action warranted by the infraction, in accordance with Association Bylaws and Rules of Competition, USSF and USASA regulations, FIFA Law and in line with precedents established by the Committee.
- e) Any player may be placed on probation. A red card received during a probationary period will be dealt with according to the rules, guidelines and any precedents established by the Committee.
- f) Any report of serious misconduct by a Team or spectators, should immediately be brought to the attention of the Executive Director.
- g) Any report of illegal use of players should immediately be brought to the attention of the Executive Director.
- h) Disciplinary actions under normal circumstances are those actions that involve short term and minimal fine determinations.
- i) Disciplinary actions under Section H of the Bylaws are processed through the office staff which will determine suspension time and fine, based on standard procedures, past history, level of infractions.
- j) Disciplinary actions which require a hearing shall be forwarded to a Disciplinary Committee which shall be appointed by the President on an Ad-hoc bases.

**Rationale:**

Moved from the Bylaws section.

