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English Korfball Disciplinary Procedure for Yellow and Red Cards

General

1. These procedures shall apply to a player, substitute, coach or other person attached to the team who is situated in the team bench area during all or part of the match (i.e. under a referee's direct jurisdiction during a match). For any other person attached to a team and not directly under the referee's direct jurisdiction, then any disciplinary provisions will be dealt as a Breach of the EKA Code of Conduct.

The use of the word "player" in the following text shall also be taken to include a "coach", "assistant coach", "substitute" or other person attached to the team and in the bench area during all or part of the match. Where "he" is used it should also be taken, if appropriate, to be "she".

2. Yellow and red cards can only be awarded for misconduct during the period of a referee's jurisdiction. This jurisdiction shall start thirty (30) minutes before the game until the time the card is signed after the game. In accordance with the playing rules of korfball, misconduct outside this period and, in particular, after the match card is signed, the showing of a card is not possible. However, the referee may still report alleged misconduct and this will be dealt with under the procedure set out for a Breach of the EKA Code of Conduct.

The EKA Disciplinary Procedure for yellow and red cards shall have the following stages:

3. No later than 1 October each club and League shall be informed of the names of all players that have yellow cards in their disciplinary record and the date when their record becomes clear.
4. A yellow card or red is given by the referee to the player during a match (or immediately after the match up until the time that the match form is signed by the captain or 15 minutes if match cards do not have to be signed according to local competition rules). The card, together with the code for it being given, should be marked on the match form and the signing of the form shall be considered due notification of the card. The card and the code explaining the card shall be reported to the EKA through the "Fixtures Live" match reporting system. The EKA Disciplinary Officer shall also be informed by the referee giving the card. (Where a match card does not have to be signed then a copy of the notification by the referee to the EKA shall be also sent to the club concerned).
5. For yellow cards the card is recorded in the player's record and a standard £15 fine shall be imposed. This has to be paid by the offending player's club within 14 days of the card being recorded on the match form. Since due notification has been accepted when the match form is signed, no invoice or request for the fine to be paid shall, or needs to, be made during this 14 day period.

Red cards following two yellows in the same match shall be dealt with as being two yellow cards with two sets of fines. The player's new record is then looked at by the Disciplinary Committee and appropriate action taken if the latest card has triggered a suspension or supplementary suspension and the accompanying supplementary fine (see clause 12). If a suspension is required, then this shall

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be in accordance with clause 15 below. If a supplementary fine is required then the club concerned shall be informed and shall have 14 days in which to pay the fine.

Yellow cards shall be automatically recorded and no appeal is possible.

6. For a direct red card, in addition to the code being recorded on the match form and reported by the club through FixturesLive, the referee is required to give a short report to the EKA Disciplinary Officer on why the card was given. This should be sent within 24 hours of the match. The player receiving the direct red card shall have the right to appeal against the card. However, this must be done within 48 hours of the end of the match. The appeal must be made in accordance with the provisions of the EKA Appeals Procedures which means that the appeal deposit mentioned in those procedures (£75) must be paid. Unless the appeal deposit is transferred to the EKA at the time of making the appeal then the appeal shall be dismissed.

Following this 48-hour period the matter shall be dealt with in accordance with clause 7 below if an appeal has not been made and in accordance with clause 8 if an appeal has been lodged.

7. If an appeal has not been received by the EKA Disciplinary Committee then the player shall automatically receive a two-match suspension, served in accordance with clause 11 below, and a £30 fine.

In addition, the Disciplinary Committee shall examine the circumstances listed in the referee's report to see if the circumstances leading to the card are serious enough to possibly warrant a longer suspension or greater fine. In such a case the matter shall be determined in accordance with clause 9 below. The Disciplinary Committee shall also look at the player's record to see if a supplementary suspension and fine in accordance with clause 12.

8. If an appeal has been received within the required time then the matter shall be referred to an Appeals Board. Examining the referee's report, the player's response and any witness statements provided by the player, opposing team or EKA Official present at the match, the Appeals Board shall be required to come to one of the following decisions:
 - (i) Dismiss the appeal and impose a two-match suspension
 - (ii) Dismiss the appeal and impose a two-match suspension and impose a further fine and/or match ban because it feels that the appeal has been made on superfluous grounds
 - (iii) Impose a two-match ban and request the Disciplinary Committee to charge the player with misconduct as in the second paragraph of clause 7
 - (iv) Impose a lesser punishment involving suspension – e.g. one match ban or suspended match ban
 - (v) have a yellow card recorded in the player's record instead of a red card and the standard £15 fine for a yellow card imposed
 - (vi) uphold the appeal, in which no further action will be taken.

In (i), (ii) or (iii) above the appeal fee shall be forfeited. In (iv), (v) or (vi) the appeal fee shall be returned. In the case of (v) the player's disciplinary record shall be checked to see if a suspension is required. If so, then it will be served on the first of the original red card suspension dates.

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The appeal should be heard before the first of the dates that a suspension would take place had there not been an appeal (see 11 below). The original suspension date shall remain in force and will only be lifted in the following cases:

- (i) the appeal is upheld as in (vi) above
 - (ii) a yellow card is recorded as in (v) above and the player's disciplinary record is clear
 - (iii) If it is not possible for the appeal to be concluded, then the Appeal Board concerned must defer the date and make a decision before the second suspension date imposed as in 11 below.
9. If it is so determined by the Disciplinary Committee, or requested by an Appeals Board, then the player given the red card shall be charged by the EKA Disciplinary Committee with misconduct and shall have seven days from the date of the charge to respond. In making his response the player should opt for one of the following:-
- (i) Ask for a hearing of the case to be heard 'in writing'. This means that the player gives his/her report on the incident (together with any witness statements) and sets out his/her reply to the charge. The Disciplinary Committee shall have the power to request further reports from any source before coming to a decision.
 - (ii) Request that a personal hearing is arranged where s/he can defend the charge in person, call witnesses etc. If such a hearing is requested, all costs for the hearing shall be paid by the player concerned if s/he is found guilty of the misconduct charge.

Failure to respond within the required time will mean the player shall be suspended beyond his two-match suspension until a reply is received.

In very serious cases the Disciplinary Committee shall have the power to impose an immediate interim suspension pending hearing the case. (see Disciplinary Policy & Procedure clause 8.

10. All fines must be paid within 14 days of their imposition. If fines are not paid on time then the club shall be written to and be given 7 days to rectify the matter. If the fine is still unpaid after this period then the following will take place:
- (i) A surcharge of £5 per week (or part thereof) shall become payable.
 - (ii) The player concerned shall be immediately suspended until the fine and any surcharges have been paid to the EKA.

Player's Disciplinary Record

11. A player's disciplinary period starts on the date of his first yellow or red card and shall run, on a rolling basis, i.e. as soon as the 24 month period for the first card has elapsed then a new 24 month period shall start from the date of the second card which would then be deemed to be the new first card in a disciplinary period and the process continues on a rolling basis until the player has been clear of cards for 24 months.

A player receiving a direct red card and having a two-match ban imposed shall have the card recorded as being equivalent to three yellow cards. If the suspension has been reduced by an

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Appeals Board to a one-match suspension then the card will be recoded as being equivalent to two yellow cards.

In both cases the Disciplinary Committee shall look at the player's new record and impose a supplementary fine and suspension in accordance with clause 12. (Note: this will mean a player with one yellow on file will receive an extra £10 fine and one match suspension for the new three card equivalent and a person with two yellows on file shall receive two supplementary £10 fines and two supplementary suspensions since his total will now have reached the equivalent of 5 cards).

12. Any player who has three cards (or equivalent) recorded against his name within his disciplinary period shall have a supplementary fine of £10 and an extra one match suspension imposed for each card from the 4th one onwards.
13. A player reaching the equivalent of six (6) cards in a Disciplinary period shall be charged separately with continued misconduct and the procedure for a Breach of Code of Conduct shall be used.
14. Where a punishment under clause 13 is imposed, once any imposed suspension has been served then the Disciplinary Committee may decide to set a player's record back to zero. This means that any future cards do not add on to the previous record and therefore supplementary fines and suspensions would not come into force until the player once again reaches a 4th or subsequent card.

Suspensions

- 15 Suspension dates for yellow and red cards are set by the EKA Disciplinary Committee and shall be determined as follows:
 - 1 In principle, the player should serve his/her suspension in matches of the highest level team/league that s/he was involved in when getting the last two cards (if yellow) or actual card if red. So, for example, if a player got a first yellow card in a 1st team match and the second yellow card (which triggered the suspension) in a lower team/lower competition match, then the club's 1st team fixture dates would be used to determine the suspension dates.
 - 2 The suspension date shall be the next match scheduled by the team determined in accordance with 15.1 above. [Note: a consequence of this is that yellow cards are carried into any post regular season cup finals, play off, or championship deciders and any cards earned during such matches that trigger a suspension shall mean that the suspension is served in the next match.]
 - 3 If the card was given in a competition match other than a regular league match (National, Regional or Area) then, for the sake of setting dates for a suspension, this card will be deemed to have been given in a regular league match (National, Regional or Area) for the team of the player concerned.
 - 4 When setting the first suspension date following a red card, or for any supplementary suspensions (including those following a misconduct charge), that team's fixtures (taking 15.1 into consideration) shall be used to determine the first suspension date.
 - 5 It is assumed that all of a club's fixtures are taking place on the same day. So, if individual dates are set and another team from the club is not scheduled to play on the suspension date but instead is scheduled to play in the period four days before the suspension date, then the player

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will be ineligible to play for that other team until the suspension is served.

- 6 Should a match designated as a suspension match be postponed, then the suspension dates shall move to the following match/es.
 - 7 For the sake of clarity, dates will be fixed according to the official fixture list of the competition concerned and will be confirmed by the EKA Disciplinary Committee.
16. Any supplementary suspensions imposed following a decision about a misconduct charge shall commence on the first match day (see 15.1 for what constitutes a match day) that occurs at least seven days after the date of the hearing's decision being announced to the player's club or the expiry of the previous suspension whichever occurs last and in accordance with clause 15.1.
- This 7-day period is to allow notice to be given to all concerned. The player's club and league shall be informed of the dates and these may be published on "Fixtures Live" and/or the EKA web site.
17. Suspensions shall be from all korfball related activities on the set dates except attending a match as a spectator until the suspension is served.
 18. Whenever "player" has been used the same principles will be applied if the person receiving a card was a coach or other person attached to the team. A person who is not a player, substitute or coach is deemed to be attached to the team if s/he sits or remains in the area of the team bench for all or part of the match.