

IQA Events red card appeal and suspension policy

The following policy outlines the procedures for any further discipline of red card ejections as well as the appeal procedure for red cards.

This policy is not intended to overrule Head Referee decisions, but to ensure valid complaints are upheld when presented to the tournament committee in terms of incorrect rule application, gross player misconduct, or egregious misbehaviour.

Any complaints made will be reviewed and adjudicated by the onsite tournament committee.

This policy is not a pathway or procedure to appeal game results and any post-match decision. This procedure will not retroactively change the outcome of a match.

Procedure

The team hub will have a google form for submitting complaints. The speaking captain must submit the form on behalf of the team, and the committee will immediately action.

Red Card suspension

If a player or team staff receives a red card during a game, the committee will:

- Review and decide whether a suspension will be served in a subsequent match/es. They will consider the context of the card and may ask for testimonies from match officials, other event staff, and/or teams and players involved in the game.

If a player or team staff receives two red cards, at any point during the tournament, the committee will:

- Enforce an automatic 1 game suspension
- Consider further suspension, up to and including expulsion from the tournament completely.

If a player or team staff receives any further red cards, at any point during the tournament, the committee will:

- Enforce an automatic 1 game suspension
- Strongly consider further suspension, up to and including expulsion from the tournament completely.

Red card appeal

The following policy outlines the procedures for appealing the application of a red card.

This policy is to ensure valid appeals are upheld when presented to the tournament committee in terms of incorrect rule application, gross player misconduct, or egregious misbehaviour.

Any appeals made will be reviewed and adjudicated by the onsite tournament committee.

Should players or team staff feel that a rule was clearly applied incorrectly and the result was a red card unfairly given to a player, team staff are able to submit a formal appeal and request a review if ALL of the following are true.

1. *The incident took place at an IQA event AND*
2. *The incident was submitted within two hours of it taking place AND*
3. *The incident took place during an active match between players and/or team staff AND*
4. *The incident was missed or entirely mismanaged by the match officials when it took place AND*
5. *It deals with an objective incorrect application of red cards*

Factual decisions — that is, decisions about what actually happened — are explicitly not eligible for appeal under any circumstances. The decision about what happened lies entirely with the respective referees. Appeals may only be submitted regarding incorrect application of rules based on the referees' version of events. A decision can only be appealed if it is an inarguable misapplication of the rulebook.

Upon receiving the complaint, the tournament committee will review any associated evidence. The tournament committee will not consider any in game appeals of a red card.

Based on the evidence, the tournament committee will determine if this warrants further investigation. They will then discuss with any involved parties, including match officials, team staff.

From here, the tournament committee will review the appeal, and if deemed necessary, overrule the red card given during the game, and therefore not consider the red card as per the red card suspension policy. The committee may choose to take no further.

If the committee determines that the appeal was not made in good faith, or was in an attempt to abuse the policy, they may enforce:

- Nothing
- The speaking captain of the next game receives a red card immediately prior to the start of the game
- The game that was appealed will be counted as a forfeit
- The team will forfeit the competition

Any decision made by the committee is final and cannot be contested.