

Adventist HealthCare Fieldhouse and Maryland SoccerPlex

CONDUCT POLICY

- a. THE Adventist HealthCare Fieldhouse and Maryland SoccerPlex HAVE A “ZERO TOLERANCE” POLICY TOWARDS FIGHTING AND OTHER VIOLENT PHYSICAL CONDUCT INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO SPITTING, PUSHING, STRIKING, KICKING, AND WRESTLING (“VIOLENT PHYSICAL CONDUCT”). ANY PLAYER ENGAGING IN VIOLENT PHYSICAL CONDUCT (AND, IN CERTAIN CASES, THE PLAYER’S TEAM) WILL BE DISCIPLINED PURSUANT TO THE RULES BELOW.**
- b. COACH/TEAM REPRESENTATIVE RESPONSIBILITY:** It is the responsibility of each player and the coach/team representative to control the conduct of the players on their team and to be aware of the status of their player’s infractions. Failure to comply may result in further disciplinary measures that may include suspension of the team or the coach/team representative, and forfeiture of games played in.
- i.** This includes use of illegal players – those not registered properly on the team roster.
 - ii.** Coach/team representative are responsible for any player leaving the bench area and entering the field of play during a fight.
- c. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE:**
- i.** The DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE will review incidents requiring possible disciplinary action within 5 business days of the incident and issue any of the following disciplinary measures in its sole and absolute discretion:
 - 1.** Player suspension for a minimum of 1 or more games.
 - 2.** Player suspension from other programs activities.
 - 3.** Player suspension for 1 or more years from the Adventist HealthCare Fieldhouse soccer activities and/or other Maryland SoccerPlex activities.
 - 4.** Player’s team forfeits 1 or more games.
 - 5.** Player’s team excluded from playoffs.
 - 6.** Player’s team suspended for the remainder of the season and excluded from additional seasons, without refund.
 - 7.** Player or player’s team permanently excluded from the Adventist HealthCare Fieldhouse soccer activities and/or other Maryland SoccerPlex activities, without refund.
 - ii.** The Adventist HealthCare Fieldhouse and/or Maryland SoccerPlex will review and consider, in its sole and absolute discretion, any written statement in the form of a letter or email from the manager, coach, or representative of the

offending player's team, if received within 24 hours of the incident giving rise to the possible disciplinary action. Only reviews regarding violations of the laws of the game or these rules will be permitted.

d. MINIMUM DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS: The Adventist HealthCare Fieldhouse and Maryland SoccerPlex have established minimum disciplinary actions related to the following offenses. Nothing shall prevent the Adventist HealthCare Fieldhouse and/or Maryland SoccerPlex from increasing the minimum disciplinary actions in their sole and absolute discretion.

i. RED CARD: Any player receiving a RED CARD shall be suspended for a minimum of 1 game plus suspension from all other Adventist HealthCare Fieldhouse and Maryland SoccerPlex activities (including games in other leagues/divisions) until that 1 game suspension has been served.

ii. TWO SUSPENSIONS: Any player that receives a second suspension in any session may be suspended from all Adventist HealthCare Fieldhouse and Maryland SoccerPlex activities for 1 year or more.

iii. VIOLENT PHYSICAL CONDUCT:

1. Any player that engages in Violent Physical Conduct will be suspended at a minimum from all Adventist HealthCare Fieldhouse and Maryland SoccerPlex youth soccer activities for 1 year from the date of incident, under the discretion of the disciplinary committee.

2. Any team that accrues a second incident of Violent Physical Conduct during a session will be suspended at a minimum from the current session without refund and may also face expulsion from future sessions, under the discretion of the disciplinary committee.

3. Any incident that involves Violent Physical Conduct from more than 1 player on a team (i.e. player leaving the bench area to join a fight on the field) will result in the team receiving a suspension from the Adventist HealthCare Fieldhouse and Maryland SoccerPlex youth soccer activities for a minimum of 1 year from the date of incident, without refund, under the discretion of the disciplinary committee.

iv. THREATENING OTHER PARTICIPANTS: Any player, manager, or coach who verbally threatens another player, coach, official, spectator, or staff member will be suspended from all Adventist HealthCare Fieldhouse and Maryland SoccerPlex activities (including soccer) for a minimum of 1 year from the date of incident, under the discretion of the disciplinary committee.

v. VERBAL ABUSE OF OFFICIAL: Any player, manager, or coach, who approaches an official or other Adventist HealthCare Fieldhouse and/or Maryland SoccerPlex staff with abusive language, or a harsh or threatening tone before, during, or after the conclusion of a league game, shall be

suspended for a minimum of 1 game, under the discretion of the disciplinary committee.

- vi. IMPROPERLY ENTERING THE FIELD OF PLAY:** If any player, manager, coach or spectator enters the field of play during a game (except when substituting or when expressly permitted by the official), the official may terminate the game and/or declare a forfeit against the offending team.
- vii. SPITTING:** Any player, manager, coach, or spectator who spits on an opponent, teammate, official and/or a member of the Adventist HealthCare Fieldhouse and/or Maryland SoccerPlex staff will be ejected from the game, asked to leave the playing area and will receive a minimum 1year suspension from all Adventist HealthCare Fieldhouse and Maryland SoccerPlex activities, under the discretion of the disciplinary committee.