

ORDER OFF, REPORTING

Order Off (AFL Canberra By-Law 12)

Yellow Card

- 12.1 A player who is reported by a Field Umpire or Field Umpires for a breach of the laws of the game shall be ordered from the field for a period of fifteen (15) minutes. In this instance an Umpire will hold up a yellow card.
- 12.2 At the discretion of the Field Umpire, a player may be ordered from the field for a period of fifteen (15) minutes and not be reported. In this instance an Umpire will hold up a yellow card.
- 12.3 A player ordered off with a yellow card is required to leave the playing area immediately through the interchange area. The offending players club is responsible for obtaining the all clear from the timekeepers for such player to resume playing.
- 12.4 For the purposes of this rule, a yellow card will result in the player concerned remaining off the field for a flat period of fifteen minutes, excluding breaks between quarters. E.g. a player sent off five minutes before half time would be permitted to resume playing ten minutes after the third quarter commenced.
- 12.5 **All players who are ordered from the field with a yellow card CAN be replaced immediately.**

Red Card

- 12.6 A player who is reported by a Field Umpire or Field Umpires for a breach of the laws of the game **twice in the same match for separate incidents**, or who is reported for a serious breach (as listed below) **shall be ordered from the field for the remainder of the match. In this instance an Umpire will hold up a red card.**
- 12.7 **Serious breaches are defined as where a player or official;**
- **Intentionally, recklessly or negligently makes contact with or strikes an Umpire**
 - **Attempts to make contact with or strike an Umpire**
 - **Behaves in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards or in relation to an Umpire**
 - **Intentionally, recklessly or negligently kicks another person**
 - **Commits an act of misconduct – if the Umpire is of the opinion that the act constituting misconduct is serious in nature** (Note: misconduct covers offences not covered specifically under other laws eg urinating in view of spectators, exposing themselves in front of spectators, headbutting etc.)
- 12.8 A player ordered off with a red card is required to leave the playing area immediately through the interchange area. The offending player is not permitted to sit on the bench, or enter the playing arena at any time (including breaks) for the remainder of the match.
- 12.9 All players who are ordered from the field with a red card can be replaced after a period of fifteen (15) minutes has elapsed. The offending players club

is responsible for obtaining the all clear from the timekeepers for the replacement player to resume playing.

- 12.10 For the purposes of this rule, a **red card will result in the player concerned CANNOT be replaced for a flat period of fifteen (15) minutes, excluding breaks between quarters.** E.g. a player sent off five minutes before half time would be permitted to be replaced until ten minutes after the third quarter commenced.

Implementation

Only Field Umpires and Emergency Field Umpires have the power to send players from the ground.

League appointed Boundary and Goal umpires have the power to report, however they do not have the power to order players from the ground, they shall advise the field umpire umpires, of their report at the next appropriate break in play and the field umpire shall, with the umpire making the report, advise the player that he/she has been reported and that player will be ordered from the ground by the field umpire.

When ordering a player off, an umpire shall signal his intention by pointing to the interchange area with an outstretched arm holding a coloured card above their head with the other.

A player ordered from the ground must leave through the interchange gates, report to the interchange steward or appropriate official on leaving the field and before returning.

In the event of a player failing or refusing to leave the field when ordered off, shall be reported for misconduct; in that they did not leave the ground when directed to do so by the umpire. The players Captain or Deputy shall be advised by the umpire that his team shall forfeit the match unless the player leaves the field immediately. If the player still refuses to leave the field his/her team shall forfeit the match.

Do not recommence the game until the player ordered from the ground is completely off.

Recording of Order Offs

- 12.11 When a player is ordered off the Umpire will show the appropriate yellow or red card to the timekeeper who will in turn acknowledge the order off by showing the same colour card to the Umpire.
- 12.12 **Timekeepers** are required to record the time that players, who are ordered off by the Field Umpires, leave the field and shall be the sole judges as to when such players may resume playing, or be replaced (whichever is applicable). It is the offending players club's responsibility to obtain the all clear from the timekeepers for such players to resume playing.

12.13 Reporting

Umpires are to use a separate Player Report Sheet for each report made. Always have someone else check it for you when you have finished it.

- You must always check the team sheets for the name and number of the player you are reporting and of the player offended against. This would need to be checked a couple of times.
- Complete the details under Match, Grade and Player against the reportable offence under which you are reporting. Please ensure that sufficient details of the offence are provided especially for reports involving Abusive Language and Misconduct
- Complete the details of the report at the bottom of the form. A copy of the report is to be given to a Club Representative of each club, who should come to the Umpires' Room, fifteen (15) minutes after the game, to get the 'All Clear'. It is not necessary to read the report out to the Club Representative.
- **The Offence Grade Template** is to be completed and forwarded to the League Office either by e-mail russell.taylor@aflnswact.com.au or fax (6232 7833) by 10am on Monday morning following the match. This form allows for the league to offer a player a Prescribed Penalty where appropriate. Prescribed penalties may be offered for minor offences only in accordance with the table that follows on the next page.

Prescribed Penalty Procedure

AFL Canberra has adopted a prescribed penalty system for reported players. It is intended that such a system may apply to players with a good record and who are reported for minor offences.

Prescribed Penalties **will not** be offered to the following:

Players, who have been reported for serious offences, i.e.:

- **Making, or attempting to make contact with or strikes an umpire**
- **Kicking**
- **Commits an act of misconduct – if the umpire is of the opinion that the act constituting misconduct is serious in nature**
- **If a player has been found guilty of the same or more serious offence (5 weeks or more in the past 24 months)**
- **Officials who are reported**

Procedure

Umpires shall report and charge players in the usual manner. The reporting umpire shall complete the player report template and forward to the Senior Football Operations Manager by 10.00 am on the Monday following the match.

Once the Player Report Form and Report Template have been received, the Senior Football Operations Manager will process the report and decide

whether or not the offence and player is suitable for determination under the prescribed penalty system or if the report should be referred to the tribunal.

If the offence and/or player are suitable for determination under the Prescribed Penalty System, the prescribed penalty shall be offered to the club/player on the Monday following the match in which the player was reported. Club/player shall notify AFL Canberra of the acceptance or refusal to accept the set penalty no later than 5.00pm on the Tuesday following the match in which the player was reported. If accepted, the penalty shall be recorded against the player's record kept by the league. If the prescribed penalty is rejected the report shall be referred to the tribunal for hearing at a time to be advised the AFL Canberra.