

# County FA Disciplinary Procedure

The following guide provides clear clarification over which incidents Leagues have jurisdiction for, and what must be reported to the County FA. Please note that where the County FA is involved, the County FA must have completed its disciplinary procedures before the League can act.

OFFENCE	COUNTY FA	LEAGUE/ COMPETITION
Any player/official/spectator uses abusive, threatening or discriminatory language or behaviour	✓	
Any player/officials/spectator commits an act of violent conduct or assault (which is not dealt with by a red or yellow card)	✓	
Red and Yellow cards	✓	
Team fields a suspended player	✓ 1 <sup>st</sup>	✓ 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Team fields an unregistered player		✓
Team fields an otherwise ineligible player (e.g. too many appearances in a higher competition)		✓
Match is abandoned due by the referee to misconduct	✓ 1 <sup>st</sup>	✓ 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Match is abandoned due to a team refusing to continue or walking off	✓ 1 <sup>st</sup>	✓ 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Match is abandoned by the referee due to player injury	✓ 1 <sup>st</sup>	✓ 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Match is abandoned by the referee due to weather conditions		✓
Team/official receives a low Respect rating from opposition/referee		✓ *
Referee receives a low Respect rating from team/s		✓ *
Illegal approach for a player	✓	

\*Make sure the County FA are also informed of this.

**It is the responsibility of the County FA to deal with any discipline or discrimination complaints / investigations. The League has a duty to pass on any reports they receive.**

Should a club wish to make a formal complaint regarding any discipline misconduct or discrimination, please put this in writing to:

Melanie Armstrong, Football Services Manager: [discipline@amateur-fa.com](mailto:discipline@amateur-fa.com) or call 020 8733 2613

# League Sanctions for Poorly Behaved Clubs and Individuals

Leagues can take several steps to assist clubs and individuals to improve behaviour. Working with clubs, individuals and the County FA is crucial in addressing the problem.

Leagues can:

- Call the club/individual in for a meeting to account for their behaviour(s) and outline how to improve;
- Refuse the club entry into invitational cups;
- Refuse to offer fixtures to the teams or club if there are outstanding debts with the league, or if there has been a failure to reply.
- Require multiple-team clubs to operate with fewer teams if the league encounters continued poor administration.
- Vote on the future membership of the league at an EGM or AGM. The League must ensure it is a fair process.
- Draw the attention of lenient sanctions by County FAs to the attention of The FA:  
[discipline@TheFA.com](mailto:discipline@TheFA.com)

Leagues should always be willing to work with teams and individuals to improve behaviour on and off the field. If they believe further training or help is required, they should address this to their County FA for potential assistance.