

DISCIPLINARY AND JUDICIARY PROCEDURE

1. Purpose

This procedure outlines how International Tag Federation manages complaints, misconduct and breaches of its policies, including the Code of Conduct and Zero Violence / No Strike Policy. It ensures matters are handled fairly, consistently and transparently.

2. Scope

This procedure applies to all participants, coaches, officials, volunteers, staff, spectators and representatives involved in International Tag Federation activities.

The ITF may appoint Panels to investigate and determine disciplinary matters. Panels must act independently, impartially and without conflicts of interest.

3. Types of Matters Covered

This procedure may apply to:

- Physical violence or striking
- Abuse, harassment or discrimination
- Breaches of safeguarding requirements
- Misconduct towards officials
- Being sent from the field of play
- Serious breaches of any International Tag Federation policy

4. Reporting a Matter

Complaints must be lodged in accordance with the ITF Complaints Policy. Complaints may be made by team participants, officials or spectators and should be submitted on the ITF Complaints Form to an International Tag Federation official or Integrity/Safeguarding Officer as soon as possible.

Matters resulting from an off-field incident must include a written report from the referee/s of the match and any Event officials that may have witnessed the matter.

5. Immediate Action

Where serious misconduct occurs, Tournament officials may:

- Remove a participant from a match or venue
- Submit a formal incident report
- Recommend an interim suspension pending investigation

6. Interim Suspension

The International Tag Federation may impose a temporary suspension where an allegation involves serious violence, safeguarding risk or significant misconduct. This is a protective measure and not a finding of guilt.

7. Timeframes

Where possible decisions on disciplinary matters will be made within 30 minutes of a report being received. This timeframe is dependant on the severity of the offence and the availability of witnesses and panel members.

Please note that as per Clause 6 of this Procedure the reported person may be temporarily suspended at the discretion of the ITF.

8. Investigation

An appointed disciplinary officer will:

- Review incident reports and evidence
- Speak with relevant parties and witnesses
- Collect evidence, including reviewing match reports and/or video footage
- Determine whether the matter should proceed to a hearing or be resolved informally
- Determine the category and level of the offence. Which is then used to determine minimum penalty.

9. Disciplinary Hearing

If required, the matter will be referred to the ITF Disciplinary Panel. The person subject to the complaint will:

- Be informed of the allegations
- Be given an opportunity to respond
- Be allowed to present evidence or witnesses

10. Disciplinary Panel

The Disciplinary panel will consist of 3 people appointed by the ITF and Tournament Director. The 3 people on the Disciplinary Panel cannot sit on a subsequent Disciplinary Appeals panel reviewing the same matter.

11. Applying Natural Justice

Natural justice is a fundamental requirement of all disciplinary proceedings and includes:

- The right of a person to know the case against them and respond
- Decisions made impartially and without bias
- Findings based on reasonable investigation and evidence
- Determinations made on the balance of probabilities

12. Possible Sanctions

Sanctions may include:

- Warning or reprimand
- Match/es suspension
- Suspension from competitions or events
- Removal from roles or representative duties
- Termination of membership
- Bans from International Tag Federation activities

13. Supporters, Parents and Spectators

Where a complaint is regarding a support, parent or spectator of a Nation or team, sanctions may also be imposed on the Nation or team in question. Nations and Teams are reminded they are responsible for the actions of their supporters, parents and spectators also.

14. Early Guilty Plea Framework

The Early Guilty Plea Framework allows matters to be resolved efficiently. A participant who accepts responsibility early **may** receive a reduced penalty as determined by the appointed disciplinary officer or Disciplinary Panel Chair.

15. Offences and Penalties

Offences are graded according to seriousness. Repeat offences may increase penalties.

Offensive / Discriminatory Language

Level	Description	Sanction Range
Level 1	Minor abusive or insulting language	2 match suspension
Level 2	Moderate offensive or abusive language	4 match suspension
Level 3	Serious abusive, racist, sexist or discriminatory language	12 months or more
Level 4	Extreme discriminatory, threatening or vilifying language	12 months to long-term suspension

Serious Foul Play / Physical Abuse

Level	Description	Sanction Range
Level 1	Accidental/careless trip or careless physical contact	1 match suspension
Level 2	Striking or kicking (refer to No Strike Policy)	Remainder of Tournament as a minimum
Level 3	Multiple strikes or involvement in melee	12 months or more
Level 4	Serious assault, head contact, or violent melee	12 months or more

Abuse or Intimidation of a Referee or Official

Level	Description	Sanction Range
Level 1	Minor verbal abuse	3 match suspension
Level 2	Threatening or intimidating behaviour	Remainder of Tournament as a minimum
Level 3	Deliberate physical contact	2 years or more
Level 4	Striking or serious assault	20+ years suspension

Spitting

Level	Description	Sanction Range
Level 1	Minor act of spitting	3 match suspension
Level 2	Spitting towards a person	Remainder of Tournament as a minimum
Level 3	Spitting on lower body	12 months or more
Level 4	Spitting on upper body/face	24 months or more

Misconduct and Bringing the Game into Disrepute

Level	Description	Sanction Range
Level 1	Repeated infringements or professional fouls	1 match suspension
Level 2	Abusing officials or breaching Code of Conduct	Remainder of Tournament as a minimum
Level 3	Aggressive abuse or inciting spectators	12 months or more
Level 4	Actions causing serious reputational damage	24 months or more

16. Notification of Outcome

The outcome and any sanctions will be communicated in writing and/or by email to the person concerned and relevant competition officials.

17. Appeals

A person may appeal a disciplinary decision in accordance with International Tag Federation appeal procedures. Appeals must be lodged within the specified timeframe and state the grounds for appeal.

Depending on the severity of the offence the Disciplinary Panel has the Authority of invoke **Clause 6** of this procedure if an appeal is lodged and being heard. This temporary suspension remains in force until the outcome of the appeal is heard.

18. Application of Sanctions

Sanctions for offences graded as Level 3 or higher will apply to all ITF Member body competitions, tournaments and events as well.

19. Breaches of Disciplinary Actions

Any team found to have fielded a suspended, sent-off, ineligible or non-registered player will face immediate disqualification from the tournament. Further action may be taken against the individual's players, officials and Nation as determined by the ITF

20. Miscellaneous

These Regulations operate alongside all other ITF Policies and Procedures

The ITF may publish decisions and sanctions where appropriate.

21. Record Keeping

International Tag Federation will keep confidential records of complaints, investigations and outcomes in accordance with privacy and safeguarding requirements.

22. Policy Review

This procedure will be reviewed periodically to ensure fairness, consistency and alignment with best practice.