



## 2023-2024 Field Directorate Disciplinary Guidelines Women's Field Lacrosse

The included penalties are automatic suspensions.

**“Automatic”:**

1. **If a player receives a penalty that carries an automatic suspension**, the coach is to sit the player even if they have not been notified by the Commissioner of the suspension prior to their next game.
2. **If a coach receives a penalty that carries an automatic suspension**, the coach is not to continue coaching in any game, even if they have not been notified by the Commissioner of the suspension prior to their next game.

*Revised September 22, 2022 (no changes in 2023)*

# BRITISH COLUMBIA LACROSSE ASSOCIATION

## FIELD DIRECTORATE DISCIPLINARY RULES

### THE FOLLOWING PENALTIES ARE AUTOMATIC SUSPENSIONS:

1. **RED CARD – DELIBERATE ATTEMPT TO INJURE**

- To deal with personal fouls (physical) that is excessive and beyond normal play.

**1<sup>st</sup> Offence** Minimum: three (3) games

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence** Minimum: six (6) games

**3<sup>rd</sup> Offence** Minimum: one (1) year suspension from date of infraction

**4<sup>th</sup> Offence** Minimum: player forfeits eligibility in the BCLA Field Directorate

2. **RED CARD - ABUSE BY LANGUAGE OR GESTURE**

- May include but not limited to verbal abuse, racial or sexual statements to a player, coach, any person officially associated with a team, or a fan.

- To deal with behavior and actions that are non-physical

**1<sup>st</sup> Offence** Minimum: two (2) to five (5) games

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence** Minimum: five (5) games to one (1) year from date of infraction

**3<sup>rd</sup> Offence** Minimum: one (1) year suspension from date of infraction to forfeit of eligibility in the BCLA Field Directorate

3. **RED CARD - ABUSE OF OFFICIALS**

- Abuse may be verbal or physical

- An official is defined as an umpire, timekeeper, scorekeeper, or any other designated officials.

- To deal with any inappropriate behavior toward any official

**1<sup>st</sup> Offence** Minimum: two (2) games to forfeit of eligibility in the BCLA Field Directorate

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence** Minimum: five (5) games to forfeit of eligibility in the BCLA Field Directorate and a hearing with the BCLA Field Directorate.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Offence** Minimum one (1) year from date of infraction to forfeit of eligibility in the BCLA Field Directorate

4. **BANISHMENT**

- Where an umpire ejects player(s), coach(s), or team personnel from the field for that game where they feel that the infraction did not warrant anything more at that time

- Banishments are to be noted on the game sheet.

Any player, coach, or team personnel(s) who accumulates banishments in **one season** will be assessed as follows:

**2 Banishments in one season** will be assessed one (1) game suspension.

**Subsequent Banishments:**

**3 Banishments** will be assessed a two (2) game suspension<sup>[SEP]</sup>

**4 Banishments** will be assessed a Suspension until a Disciplinary Hearing is held.<sup>[SEP]</sup>

**5. DEFAULT OF GAMES**

Immediate referral to local Field League for hearing.

**6. COACH OR MANAGER PULLING TEAM FROM FIELD**

Forfeiture of game and immediate referral to local Field League for hearing.

**7. FIGHTING**

The deliberate striking or attempting to strike an opponent, a non-playing member of the opponent's squad, a coach or anyone controlling the play of the game with the hand, cross, ball or otherwise by a player, substitute, a non-playing member of a squad, a coach or anyone officially connected with a team may be an expulsion foul.

- the third man into an altercation is automatically expelled from the game
- any person leaving the bench when the benches have been frozen may be expelled from the game
- to deal solely with the act of fighting
- one punch thrown, whether it lands on the intended recipient or not, or anyone else, constitutes a fight.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offence** Minimum: two (2) game suspension
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offence** Minimum: five (5) game suspension
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offence** Minimum: one (1) year suspension from date of infraction
- 4<sup>th</sup> Offence** Minimum: forfeit of eligibility in the BCLA Field Directorate

**8. FIGHTING OFF PLAYING SURFACE**

If the fight occurs after the jurisdiction of the umpire has terminated, the matter will be referred to the local Field League for investigation and hearing.

**9. LEAVING PLAYER OR PENALTY BENCH TO ENTER AN ALTERCATION**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offence** - Five (5) Games
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offence** - One (1) Year from the date of offence
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offence** - Life (termination of eligibility in the Field Directorate)

**10. UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL OR DRUGS**

Immediate suspension and an automatic referral for hearing by local Field League.

**11. SPITTING AT OPPONENT/OFFICIAL, HEAD BUTTING, HAIR PULLING**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offence** - Five (5) Games
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offence** - One (1) Year from date of offence
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offence** - Life (termination of eligibility in the Field Directorate)

**12. YELLOW OR YELLOW/RED CARD**

- Where an umpire ejects player(s), coach(es), or team personnel from the field for that game because they have hit their card limit for that game

**CARD POINT SYSTEM**

- Yellow Card - 2 points
- Yellow/Red Card - 4 points
- Red Card - 8 points
  
- All Players start with 0 points at the beginning of the season

- All cards will be tracked throughout the entire season including sanctioned tournaments, and the Provincial Women's Field Lacrosse Provincial Championship/Tournament.

Once a player has reached a total of 8 points for infractions other than points 1 (one) through 11 (eleven) in this document they will serve a minimum 1 (one) game suspension.

- After 1st suspension - points reset to 2 (6 point threshold)
- After 2nd suspension - points reset to 4 (4 point threshold)
- After 3rd suspension - points reset to 6 (2 point threshold)
- After 4th suspension - player is done for the season

#### **Provincial Women's Field Lacrosse Provincial Championship/Tournament**

- Players who have not hit 8 points in any part of the regular season will reset to 0 points (will not carry over points)
- During provincials all players will have a 6 point threshold
- Any player who has hit 8 points in any part of the regular season, will start with 2 points and will only have a 4 point threshold

13. Any team, which plays an ineligible player, will lose any points earned from the games in which the ineligible player played. The Coach will be suspended for two (2) games from the first offence and for the second offence, an automatic referral to the British Columbia Lacrosse Coaches Group for the appropriate disciplinary action.
14. Coaches and/or managers who receive a suspension will be reported to the BCLA Field Directorate for any suspension under five (5) games that can be imposed by a League Commissioner. Any action by a Coach or a Manager that is the opinion of the local commissioner or BCLA Directorate that warrants further disciplinary action, will be immediately referred to the chairperson of the British Columbia Lacrosse Coaches Group for his/her appropriate action.
15. A suspended player will be removed from all team games, regardless of age division (i.e., cannot play up while suspended) until he/she has served the suspension, this suspension may be served during BCLA sanctioned tournament and league games only. The suspended player **cannot participate in exhibition games** that occur during the suspended number of games. The suspended player **must not appear in the dressing room or on or near the player's bench**. The player will **not participate in any official duties**, i.e. - Timekeeping, Coaching, Score Keeping or Officiating (Umpire) at any level. The player will be allowed to practice only with his/her team.
16. **It is very important that each League Commissioner has all the facts and has done a thorough investigation prior to handing down a suspension.**  
*Depending upon the severity of the penalty, additional games may be imposed by the League Chairperson and/or the Field Directorate.*

#### **SUMMATION:**

*These penalties shall be cumulative throughout the entire career of a player in the BCLA Field Directorate and not restricted for one season, except for banishment. Thus, a player, after committing one offence, is deterred from repeating the offence instead of having a clean slate every year.*

*Any second offence requires the player to appear before the Field Directorate at the first meeting after the offence has taken place. This is to make the player more accountable for his/her actions.*