

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Effective December 1, 2006

The Department has the authority to impose disciplinary sanctions for unsportsmanlike behavior and/or non-compliance with departmental policies, guidelines or standards. This authority is not limited to programs sponsored by Department of Recreation & Parks.

When deemed appropriate, the Department will ascertain the pertinent facts and take suitable disciplinary action regarding incidents of unsportsmanlike behavior or violations of departmental policies, guidelines or standards. All parties must be aware that unreasonable treatment of departmental staff, including inappropriate airing of complaints, is considered in the same context as aggressive behavior on the "field of play."

For athletic activities, game officials and departmental staff shall penalize players, coaches or spectators for unsportsmanlike conduct and/or non-compliance with departmental policies, guidelines or standards. If there is flagrant misconduct, the game official or staff member shall penalize the person(s) by requiring them to leave the vicinity.

Game officials and departmental staff may suspend play or forfeit a game when, in their judgment, conditions justify such actions. Flagrant misconduct or repeated misconduct may result in permanent suspension. Team suspensions can be imposed.

DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS FOR ORGANIZATIONS

Disciplinary sanctions for organizations may include but not be limited to:

- Loss of Accreditation
- Loss of Use of Buildings (i.e. Concessions, Utility Building, Storage Shed, etc.)
- Restricted or Loss of Facility Usage
- Payment for Facility Use or Damages
- Expulsion of Teams from County Leagues
- Forfeiture of Games
- Organizational Probation
- Fines

DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS

Disciplinary sanctions for individuals may include but not be limited to:

- Suspensions
- Expulsions
- Prohibition to Attend Events
- Forfeiture of Games
- Probation of Players, Coaches and/or Spectators

NON-APPEALABLE DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

The following disciplinary sanctions may not be appealed:

- Probation
- One or Two-Game Suspension for Participants in Youth Activities (includes coaches)
- Two-Week Suspension for Participants in Adult Activities

EJECTION IN YOUTH SPORTS

Players ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct by departmental personnel or game officials will be suspended for a minimum of one (1) game, including playoffs and tournaments.

Coaches or spectators ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct by departmental personnel or game officials will be suspended for minimum of two (2) games, including playoffs and tournaments.

Ejections occurring at the end of the season will result in the suspensions being carried over to the next sport or season. The suspended person may be barred from all sites where County-sponsored activities are being held.

A coach who refuses to give the full name of an ejected player will be subject to disciplinary action.

EJECTION IN ADULT SPORTS

Players, coaches or spectators in ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct by departmental personnel or game officials will be suspended for a minimum of two (2) weeks, including playoffs and tournaments at departmental facilities.

Ejections occurring at the end of the season will result in the suspensions being carried over to the next sport or season. The suspended person may be barred from all sites where County-sponsored activities are being held.

A coach who refuses to give the full name of an ejected player will be subject to disciplinary action.

PHYSICAL CONFRONTATIONS

A player, coach or spectator who initiates and has a physical confrontation with a game official will automatically be suspended from all county-sponsored sports for a minimum of two (2) years. A player, coach or spectator who initiates and has a physical confrontation with another individual will be automatically suspended from all county-sponsored sports for a minimum of one (1) year. The suspended person is barred from all sites where County-sponsored activities are being held.

SHARING DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

The Department of Recreation and Parks is a member of the Mid-Atlantic Recreation and Parks Sports Alliance. The Alliance utilizes the common Sports Code of Conduct and shares disciplinary actions related to poor sportsmanship. Member jurisdictions may jointly enforce disciplinary sanctions imposed on an individual or organization.