



# GAELIC FOOTBALL & HURLING ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALASIA

## ***DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS POLICY & PROCEDURES***

***This Policy relates to all matters of disciplinary hearings including on field infractions and off field matters as well as Appeals, Objections and Investigations. The Policy is to be read in conjunction with related Rules in the Australasian Rule Book.***

1. At the outset of the meeting, the Chairperson should remind all the members that they should declare any possible conflict of interest in regard to a case on the agenda and the person/s should be asked to remove themselves from the case in point if the majority of the Committee feel that this is warranted.
2. No member of a Committee hearing a disciplinary matter is to partake in the disciplinary process when a member of their own Club is appearing before a disciplinary hearing. This includes appeals/objections/investigations.
3. Where an individual is being heard at any stage of the Disciplinary process, the individual should in every case be asked if he/she has a concern about the involvement of any member in adjudicating on the case, because of an alleged conflict of interest.
4. Where such a concern is voiced, the person involved shall not sit in judgement only if the majority of the Committee feel that this is warranted.
5. The actions at 1, 2, 3 and 4 should be recorded in the minutes with regard to every case dealt with.
6. Members of the Disciplinary Committee introduce themselves to those attending and advise that the hearing will be conducted in accordance with the relevant rules in the Gaelic Football & Hurling Association of Australasia Rule Book a copy of which has been provided to all Clubs.
7. The referee's report or any other report related to the hearing is read out to those attending
8. If the matter is related to a player sent from the field/reported the person who was sent off/reported is asked if they or the person accompanying them wish to make a statement
9. The Disciplinary Committee ask those present to leave whilst the committee deliberates
10. If the matter is related to a player sent from the field/reported, the Disciplinary Committee must accept the referee's report unless there is video evidence to the contrary ref: Rule 112. The members are there solely to decide whether the minimum penalty or more will apply. Under no circumstances can they not impose a minimum penalty or greater (other than where video evidence is available). The Disciplinary Committee checks the Rule Book as to the minimum suspension for the infraction/s the member was sent off/reported for

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11. The Disciplinary Committee decides whether the minimum suspension will apply or the offence/s warrant a longer suspension. No suspension can be less than the minimum as per the Rule Book.
12. A player sent off for the same or similar infraction within 48 weeks (ref. Rule 93) will have at least double the minimum suspension imposed
13. The member concerned and any representative are invited back to the meeting and the decision of committee is explained
14. For playing offences, a player who is registered to play both football & hurling and who has played at least one game in each competition during the season prior to being sent off cannot play in either competition until they have served their suspension. Any suspension imposed on these type of players can be served in the two competitions e.g. a player sent off for striking who gets the minimum three game suspension could miss two football and one hurling matches or vice versa
15. The State Secretary is advised in writing/email of the outcome of the disciplinary hearing. The member and the Secretary of the Club of the member appearing before the tribunal also are to be advised in writing/email of the outcome
15. Any instance of a Disciplinary Committee not imposing a minimum or greater penalty as detailed in 10 above will result in a higher committee lodging an appeal and such appeal will be upheld unless the original decision to not impose at least the minimum penalty was a result of video evidence being available