

Match-Based Discipline

From season 2011-12 FA suspensions will no longer be time-based, but **match-based**, as at higher levels of football. This will apply to all open-aged football, (Saturday, Sunday and Midweek), veterans and under-19s.

Punishment will **automatically** come into force 21 days after the sending-off offence whether the club has received the paperwork or not. The club will know if you had a player sent off.

The player will no longer have to sign the paperwork from Notts FA.

Bans will only apply to the type of football where the offence was committed, i.e. Saturday, Sunday, Midweek, under-19s or veterans. They apply to playing and refereeing, but not managing or acting as physio.

Bans for sendings-off will be as follows:

- 6 matches for spitting at another player
- 3 matches for serious foul play, violent conduct
- 2 matches for using offensive language
- 1 match for denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity or receiving a second caution

There will be no right of appeal for these offences, (**standard charges**), except with video evidence or if mistaken identity can be proved by the correct offender coming forward.

Further offences in the same game, e.g. refusing to give a name, causing match to be abandoned etc., will get a **Misconduct charge** in addition to the automatic ban, which will always be served from the 21st day after the offence. Such offences under E3 or E4 will be subject to an additional match-based ban, **but this ban will apply to all football** until the further match bans have been completed. However, there is **a right of appeal against a Misconduct charge which would result in a ban of more than three matches.**

In exceptional circumstances, e.g. assaults on match officials or serious violence, the penalty remains time-based and with immediate effect and will apply to ALL football.

Responses to a Misconduct charge remain:

- Guilty with a written explanation
- Guilty with a plea for leniency at a Personal Hearing
- Not Guilty with a written explanation
- Not Guilty and a request for a Personal Hearing

Scenario

If a player gets an automatic 3 match ban for a field offence and a 3 match ban for misconduct, s/he will not be allowed to play in that type of football until the automatic 3 match ban is served and additionally will not play ANY football between the end of the first 3 match ban and the end of the 6 match ban. **This could effectively amount to a 9 match ban for a player who plays Saturday and Sunday.**

Club Responsibilities

- Inform Notts FA of the dates of matches (1, 2 or 3) when the player is banned
- Inform Notts FA of any changes to this through postponement or re-arrangement
- Check with Notts FA via office or website if new signings are banned
- Make sure player does not play whilst banned

League Responsibilities

- Check fixtures when the player is banned
- Make sure player does not play whilst banned
- Inform Notts FA of any anomalies