

GREEN, YELLOW and RED CARD PENALTIES CODE

A. PREAMBLE

The VTCA Board of Management continues to be concerned at poor player behaviour, especially the lack of respect shown to other players and to umpires at playing venues and in particular on the field.

In an effort to improve player behaviour the VTCA Board of Management has introduced rules which allow umpires to immediately deal with misbehaviour so that the match may be conducted in the true spirit of cricket.

The scheme requires umpires to immediately penalise players and club officials who breach the VTCA Codes of Behaviour. The player and /or club official may also be reported and if found guilty the tribunal may impose further sanctions.

For most breaches of these rules a yellow card will be given by an Umpire. Attracting a second yellow card in the same match will result in the player/official receiving an indirect red card which shall serve as notice for an immediate send off from the playing arena for the rest of the match for a player and removal from the venue for the rest of the match for a club official.

When the breach involves a serious offence, a direct Red Card will be given by an umpire and will result in an immediate send off for the rest of the match.

We believe and truly hope that umpires will not be called upon to use the cards.

B. DEFINITIONS

(i) **“Audible obscenity” includes** a single outburst of swearing or obscene language not directed at another player, umpire or official which is heard by the umpire and:

- a) if made on the field, is one which in the opinion of the umpire could be heard by a person outside the playing field; or
- b) if made off the field, is heard by the umpire.

(ii) Where an audible obscenity is part of a sledging or part of abusive comments directed at a player, umpire or official, then such sledging or comments shall be treated as a reportable offence.

iii) **“Reportable Offence”** includes all offences which may be heard and determined by the VTCA Tribunal other than:

- a) a Serious Reportable Offence;
- b) the first instance of an audible obscenity where making the audible obscenity is a non-reportable offence; or
- c) an offence under the VTCA rules which carries the penalty of a fine only.

(iv) **“Serious Reportable Offence”** includes.

- a) physically assaulting an umpire, player, official or spectator;
- b) threatening to physically assault an umpire, player, official or spectator; or
- c) any act of violence on or off the playing field; or
- d) sustained and serious verbal abuse of an umpire, player, official, or spectator; or
- e) any other breach of the Code of Behaviour deemed by the umpire to be a serious offence.

(iv) “**Umpire**” means a VTCA appointed umpire and/or Club personnel appointed as umpire for the day.

C. GREEN CARD, Non-reportable:

A green card shall be issued, at the umpire’s discretion, to a Captain or Captains who engages in any of the following breaches of these Rules:

(i) **Over Rates/Late Finish**: Where in the opinion of the umpire they have contributed to play for the day finishing later than 6:20pm.

The VTCA shall keep a record of such breaches and if a Club XI receives a combined total of three (3) Green cards in a season then the Captain of that team shall be suspended for one match.

D. YELLOW CARD, Potentially Reportable:

A Yellow card shall be issued, at the umpire’s discretion, to a player or official who engages in any of the following breaches of these Rules:

(i) **Audible obscenity**: makes an audible obscenity directed at the umpire, another player or official.

(ii) **Dissent by word or action**: shows dissent by word or action towards an umpire, another player or official.

(iii) **Breaches of VTCA Code of Behaviour**: engages in unsporting behaviour in breach of the Code of Behaviour

(iv) **Breaches of VTCA Rules**: engages in unsporting behaviour in breach of the VTCA Rules.

(v) **Breaches of Spirit of Cricket**: engages in unsporting behaviour in breach of the Spirit of Cricket.

Where a player or official directly receives a Yellow card the Umpire also has the ability to refer that Yellow Card to the Tribunal.

The giving of a second Yellow card in the same match equates to an indirect Red card and must result in a Tribunal appearance.

The umpire shall note in his match report the name of any player receiving a Yellow Card. The VTCA shall keep a record of such breaches and if a player receives a combined total of three (3) Yellow cards in a season then that player shall be suspended for one match.

If a player receives two yellow cards during the same match and subsequently is suspended by the Tribunal, those two yellow cards do not count for the purpose of accumulation.

Any player found guilty of an offence and has received a suspended sentence, the penalty suspended will be imposed immediately on receipt of any yellow or red card.

E. RED CARD:

Where a player or official commits a serious breach of the VTCA Code of Behaviour, VTCA Rules or the Spirit of Cricket that in the opinion of the Umpire is greater than a Yellow Card offence the umpire shall show the player or official a Red Card.

a) A player or official who is shown a Red Card must immediately and

without further dissent leave the playing field and shall take no further part in the match in any capacity. Such a Red Card is an automatic Tribunal appearance.

- b) A player being sent off the ground is not relevant to any subsequent penalty consideration if that matter proceeds to the Tribunal.
- c) Where a player or official refuses to leave the playing arena, the umpire shall call the captain of that player's team and advise him that the failure of the player to immediately leave the arena will result in the match being forfeited to the opposition team.
- d) A player given a Red card cannot be substituted.
- e) Where two umpires stand in a match one or both can give Yellow or Red cards.

F. REPORTING PROCEDURE:

- a) Where an umpire acts under these rules and a player is reported, the umpire must follow the procedure set out in the VTCA Tribunal Procedures and in the Administrative Rules particularly **Rule A76.1** and **Rule A76.2**.
- b) Nothing in these rules prevents an umpire from making a decision after the close of play that he will report a player. Where the umpire makes such a decision, he must follow the procedure set out in the VTCA Tribunal Procedures and in the Administrative Rules particularly Rule A76.1 and Rule A76.2.