
TO: Football Federation Victoria Clubs

FROM: Tribunal and Disciplinary Department

DATE: 17 March 2009

**SUBJECT: 2009 Grievance Disciplinary and Tribunal (GDT) By-Law Now Available
2009 Grievance Disciplinary and Tribunal (GDT) By-Law Major Changes**

Grievance Disciplinary and Tribunal (GDT) By-Law 2009 – Now Available

The 2009 GDT By-Law has been launched and is now available for viewing and downloading at:
<http://www.footballfedvic.com.au/competitions/discipline/rules/>

It is important that all Clubs, Club Associates and relevant stakeholders familiarise themselves with the provisions of the GDT By-Law.

Grievance Disciplinary and Tribunal (GDT) By-Law 2009 – Major Changes

- 1. Red Card Fixed Penalties have been increased:** Many of the penalties have been substantially increased, in particular with respect to offences against Match Officials. In addition the categories of Red Card Offences have been expanded to capture a wider range of more specific offences. Indiscretions against Match Officials will be penalised heavily.
- 2. Penalties for Club Associates who commit Misconduct against Match Officials have been increased:** Many of the penalties have been substantially increased to decisively deal with this undesirable Misconduct. Repeat offences by Club Associates may result in a team and/or their Club losing championship points!
- 3. Breaches of the Rules of Competition:** The new penalty schedule reflects increased penalties for repeat offenders including the ability for FFV to eventually deduct points from an offending team and/or their Club. Repeat offences by Club Associates may result in a team and/or their Club losing championship points!
- 4. Misconduct Fixed Penalties:** Many of the penalties have been increased and some new offences have been included, in particular addressing entering the field of play without permission and being sent from the technical area during a fixture. The new Misconduct Fixed Penalties are strict but fair and the penalties reflect the ability for FFV to eventually deduct points from an offending team and/or their Club. Repeat offences by Club Associates may result in a team and/or their Club losing championship points!

5. **Minimum Penalties for Misconduct:** Misconduct Fixed Penalties and many other acts of Misconduct committed by Club Associates are now subject to minimum sanctions. These sanctions will be applied by FFV or the Tribunal.
6. **Game Protests now administratively determined:** When a Club lodges a protest based on an ineligible player taking the field of play, such an allegation will be investigated by FFV, and if upheld, the relevant penalties which include game score reversal, and in some instances point deductions will be applied. Game protests in the first instance will be processed and applied by FFV.
7. **Unregistered/Ineligible Players:** Offences where Clubs field Players who are unregistered/ineligible are now being dealt with decisively by FFV. The penalties for fielding an unregistered/ineligible Player include the reversal of a game score, potential point deductions and additional penalties and/or a formal charge of Misconduct that may be referred to the Tribunal.
8. **Appeals Board Fees now partly refundable:** Subject to successfully appealing a case to the FFV Appeals Board, the relevant fee may be refunded minus \$275.00. In 2008 the fee was fully non-refundable.
9. **Notification:** For the purposes of notification under the GDT, advising a Club Associate via the website, email, fax or commercial mail will be deemed to have satisfied such requirements. Previously, two of the four had to be performed. While in practice FFV will continue to notify Club Associates of things through two mediums, typically the website and one other, it must be noted that notification through one medium alone will be sufficient under the GDT.
10. **Match Official Misconduct:** Misconduct committed by a Match Official in their capacity as a Match Official or as a Player is now addressed in the GDT. This covers the rare instances where a Match Official who is also a player commits an indiscretion. In addition should a Match Official commit Misconduct while performing their duties as a Match Official this Clause also enables action to be taken against them. This is not an avenue for Club Associates to complain or make comments about the standard of officiating.

For further information or clarification of the above, we would be more than happy to discuss such with you.

Yours Sincerely,

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