



A-Leagues Disciplinary Regulations

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Football Australia Limited

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	OBJECTIVES AND APPLICATION OF THE REGULATIONS.....	4
2.	LAWS OF THE GAME.....	4
3.	AUTHORITIES AND JURISDICTION	5
4.	CONSTITUTION OF BODIES	6
5.	PLAYER YELLOW CARDS	8
6.	PLAYER RED CARDS	9
7.	TEAM OFFICIAL YELLOW CARDS	11
8.	TEAM OFFICIAL RED CARDS	12
9.	PARTICIPANTS REGISTERED AS BOTH A PLAYER AND TEAM OFFICIAL.....	15
10.	TEAM MISCONDUCT	16
11.	MATCH REVIEW PANEL – POST MATCH REVIEW OF A-LEAGUES MATCHES.....	17
12.	NOTICES	31
13.	RIGHT TO SANCTION	32
14.	NATURE AND FORM OF SANCTIONS	33
15.	SERVING A SUSPENSION	35
16.	NON-FIXTURE MATCHES.....	40
17.	EFFECT OF ABANDONED MATCHES.....	41
18.	DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL AND ADMINISTRATOR.....	42
19.	CONDUCT OF HEARINGS.....	43
20.	PROCEDURAL FAIRNESS	44
21.	HEARING PROCEDURE	45
22.	DETERMINATIONS AND DELIBERATIONS.....	46
23.	APPEALS	49
24.	NO RECOURSE TO COURTS.....	50
25.	APPLICABLE LAW	51
26.	IMMUNITY	51

27. SUBSTANTIAL COMPLIANCE	51
28. NOTICE	51
29. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS	53
30. ENFORCEMENT	60
SCHEDULE 1. A-LEAGUE WOMEN	61
1 PLAYER YELLOW CARDS.....	61
2 TEAM OFFICIAL YELLOW CARDS	61
3 PARTICIPANTS REGISTERED AS BOTH A PLAYER AND TEAM OFFICIAL YELLOW CARDS	62
SCHEDULE 2. A-LEAGUE MEN	63
1 PLAYER YELLOW CARDS.....	63
2 TEAM OFFICIAL YELLOW CARDS	63
3 PARTICIPANTS REGISTERED AS BOTH A PLAYER AND TEAM OFFICIAL YELLOW CARDS	64
SCHEDULE 3. TABLE OF OFFENCES.....	65

PART A – GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. OBJECTIVES AND APPLICATION OF THE REGULATIONS

- 1.1 These Regulations are designed to ensure that appropriate standards of behaviour are upheld on the field of play in a consistent manner across A-Leagues Matches and in interpreting and applying these Regulations that objective is to be given effect.
- 1.2 The Regulations:
- (a) form part of the FA Statutes;
 - (b) apply to FA, APL, Clubs, Players and Team Officials;
 - (c) apply to all A-Leagues Matches;
 - (d) continue to apply to a Club or a Participant even after that Club's or Participant's association, registration, employment or engagement has ended, if that Club or Participant breached these Regulations while a current Participant; and
 - (e) do not limit or restrict the application of FIFA Statutes or FA Statutes and, in particular, the Code of Conduct and Ethics for conduct or behaviour of a Player or Team Official.

2. LAWS OF THE GAME

- 2.1 The Laws of the Game as drafted by the International Football Association Board and as adopted in the FIFA Statutes govern the conduct of A-Leagues Matches.
- 2.2 A Referee, from the time of entering the field of play for a pre-match A-Leagues Match inspection until leaving the field of play after the A-Leagues Match ends (including kicks from the penalty mark), may take the following disciplinary action:
- (a) in the case of a Player, issue a Player Yellow Card in accordance with the Laws of the Game;
 - (b) in the case of a Player, issue a Player Red Card in accordance with the Laws of the Game;
 - (c) in the case of a Team Official, issue a Team Official Yellow Card in accordance with the Laws of the Game; and/or
 - (d) in the case of a Team Official, issue a Team Official Red Card in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

- 2.3 These Regulations contain a Players Table of Offences and Team Officials Table of Offences at Schedule 3. These Table of Offences detail charges that can be initiated in accordance with these Regulations against a Player for Player Red Card Offences or a Team Official for Team Official Red Card Offences.
- 2.4 After an A-Leagues Match, a Referee must submit to FA a Referee's Report recording any disciplinary action taken in accordance with clause 2.2. The Referee and other Match Officials may, and if requested by FA (directly or on behalf of the Match Review Panel) must, submit to FA an incident report providing details of the incident giving rise to the disciplinary action or any other incident that may have occurred during the A-Leagues Match. FA (directly or on behalf of or the Match Review Panel) may request that a Match Official provide further particulars in their incident report.

3. AUTHORITIES AND JURISDICTION

- 3.1 The Referee:
- (a) controls each match and has authority to enforce the Laws of the Game in each A-Leagues Match to which they have been appointed;
 - (b) makes all disciplinary decisions during an A-Leagues Match, which decisions, subject to the limited exceptions contained in these Regulations, are final;
 - (c) has the powers, duties and authority:
 - (i) as specified in the Laws of the Game and, in particular, Law 5; and
 - (ii) to make disciplinary decisions from the moment of entering the field of play for a pre-match A-Leagues Match inspection until they leave the field of play after the A-Leagues Match ends (including kicks from the penalty mark).
- 3.2 FA:
- (a) regulates the A-Leagues;
 - (b) may exercise any of the powers granted to it under these Regulations;
 - (c) must convene the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee and the Appeal Committee to make Determinations as required under these Regulations;
 - (d) will constitute a Match Review Panel to operate in accordance with these Regulations;
 - (e) will appoint a Disciplinary Counsel to act in accordance with these Regulations;
 - (f) must give effect to the sanctions applied pursuant to these Regulations and, where appropriate, impose further sanctions if a Participant contravenes the terms of a sanction; and

- (g) may appoint an Investigations Officer to operate in accordance with these Regulations.

3.3 The Disciplinary and Ethics Committee:

- (a) must determine matters that have been referred to it and impose such sanctions as are authorised and appropriate to the Determination; and
- (b) may rectify Obvious Error in the Referee's disciplinary decisions,
arising from A-Leagues Matches as specified and in accordance with these Regulations and the FA Statutes.

3.4 The Appeal Committee has jurisdiction to hear appeals from the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee and appeals pursuant to clause 23.2 and must determine appeals, including imposition of any sanction, in accordance with these Regulations and the FA Statutes.

3.5 The Match Review Panel:

- (a) applies the Table of Offences and proposes sanctions;
- (b) refers matters to the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee; and
- (c) may rectify Obvious Error in the Referee's disciplinary decisions,
arising from A-Leagues Matches as specified and in accordance with these Regulations and the FA Statutes.

4. CONSTITUTION OF BODIES

Match Review Panel

- 4.1 FA will establish and maintain a Match Review Panel Roster of members appointed from time to time by the FA Chief Executive Officer.
- 4.2 The Match Review Panel must consist of three (3) members of the Match Review Panel Roster, of which at least one (1) must be a former national referee and one (1) must be a former professional player, and each of whom must have a thorough knowledge of football or recent competition experience suitable to the function of the Match Review Panel.
- 4.3 Subject to clause 4.4, members will be appointed to the Match Review Panel Roster for a term of four (4) years, commencing on the date of their appointment, and may be re-appointed for one (1) additional term.
- 4.4 To promote continuity and renewal, the FA Chief Executive Officer will review the composition of the Match Review Panel Roster annually, following the conclusion of the A-League Men's and A-League Women's seasons. As part of this review, changes to the Match Review Panel Roster may be considered, including the potential rotation of members. Any such decisions may

take into account factors such as length of service of members, the availability of suitable replacements or any other considerations at the discretion of the FA Chief Executive Officer.

- 4.5 The Match Review Panel will reach decisions by a majority verdict, except when allowing an Obvious Error (Red Card) Application or referring an Obvious Error (Yellow Card Simulation) Application or an Obvious Error – Simulation Citation, when its decision must be unanimous in such circumstances. Each member is entitled to cast one (1) vote.

Disciplinary and Ethics Committee

- 4.6 The Disciplinary and Ethics Committee has jurisdiction to determine matters referable to it pursuant to these Regulations.
- 4.7 In a hearing, the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee must consist of three (3) persons (including a Chair and at least one (1) former professional player).
- 4.8 Each member of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee has and must exercise a single vote and all decisions of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee will be made by majority vote.

Appeal Committee

- 4.9 The Appeal Committee has jurisdiction to determine appeals from Determinations of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee in accordance with these Regulations and appeals by Clubs in the case of sanctions issued by FA for Team Misconduct.
- 4.10 In a hearing, the Appeal Committee must consist of three (3) persons (including a Chair and at least one (1) former professional player).
- 4.11 Each member of the Appeal Committee has and must exercise a single vote and all decisions of the Appeal Committee will be made by majority vote.

PART B – INFRINGEMENTS

5. PLAYER YELLOW CARDS

5.1 A Player Yellow Card is issued by a Referee to a Player for the commission of the following cautionable offences specified at Law 12 of the Laws of the Game include but are not limited to:

- Y1 - unsporting behaviour
- Y2 - dissent by word or action
- Y3 - persistent infringement of the Laws of the Game
- Y4 - delaying the restart of play
- Y5 - failure to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free kick or thrown in
- Y6 – entering, re-entering or deliberately leaving the field of play without the Referee's permission
- Y7 – entering the referee review area
- Y8 – excessively using the 'review' (TV screen) signal

5.2 FA must specify that a Player who accumulates a certain number of Player Yellow Cards during the course of the A-Leagues must serve a Mandatory Match Suspension.

5.3 The Regulations detailing the Mandatory Match Suspensions for the accumulation of Player Yellow Cards during the:

- (a) A-League Women is in accordance with item 1 of Schedule 1; and
- (b) A-League Men is in accordance with item 1 of Schedule 2.

5.4 If a Player receives two (2) Player Yellow Cards during the same A-Leagues Match and therefore receives an indirect Player Red Card, the two (2) Player Yellow Cards do not count for the purposes of accumulation.

5.5 If a Player receives a Player Yellow Card and then a direct Player Red Card in the same A-Leagues Match, the Player Yellow Card will count in the Player's accumulation of Player Yellow Cards. Further, if receipt of this Player Yellow Card means the Player must serve a Mandatory Match Suspension due to an accumulation of Player Yellow Cards in accordance with clauses

5.2 and 5.3, the suspensions for the accumulation of Player Yellow Cards and the direct Player Red Card respectively, must be served consecutively and not concurrently.

- 5.6 The accumulation of Player Yellow Cards will be reset to zero at the end of the last A-Leagues Match of the Regular Season and any Finals Series respectively. This means that Player Yellow Cards accumulated in the Regular Season do not carry over to any Finals Series and Player Yellow Cards accumulated in the Finals Series do not carry over to the next Regular Season.
- 5.7 Match suspensions incurred as a result of the accumulation of Player Yellow Cards in either the Regular Season or Finals Series must be served in the next A-Leagues Match in which the Club competes whether that be in the Regular Season or Finals Series.
- 5.8 A Player Yellow Card issued to a Player during a Non-Fixture Match does not accumulate toward future matches.

6. PLAYER RED CARDS

- 6.1 A Player Red Card is an order given by the Referee to a Player to leave the field of play, its surrounds and the Technical Area, such order to be given at any time from when the Referee enters the field of play for a pre-match A-Leagues Match inspection until they leave the field of play after the A-Leagues Match ends (including kicks from the penalty mark).
- 6.2 A Player Red Card is issued by a Referee to a Player for the commission of the following sending-off offences specified at Law 12 of the Laws of the Game include but are not limited to:
- R1 - serious foul play
 - R2 - violent conduct
 - R3 - biting or spitting at any person
 - R4 - denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by a handball offence (this does not apply to a goalkeeper within their own penalty area)
 - R5 - otherwise denying a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent as prescribed by Law 12 of the Laws of the Game
 - R6 - using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures
 - R7 - receiving a second Yellow Card in the same match
 - R8 - entering the video operation room

- 6.3 A Player Red Card is regarded as indirect if it is the result of the accumulation of two (2) Yellow Cards in the same A-Leagues Match and as direct in all other cases. Where a Player receives an indirect Player Red Card, they will serve a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) A-Leagues Match or, in the case of the A-League Men, one (1) Australia Cup Match (whichever comes first).
- 6.4 FA must specify that a Player who accumulates a certain number of direct Player Red Cards during the course of the A-Leagues must serve a Mandatory Match Suspension.
- 6.5 Further to clause 6.4 but subject to clause 9.2, a Player who accumulates the following number of direct Player Red Cards during the Regular Season or Finals Series, must serve the following Mandatory Match Suspension:
- (a) 1st occasion, equates to a one (1) match suspension;
 - (b) 2nd occasion, equates to a one (1) match suspension;
 - (c) 3rd occasion, equates to a two (2) match suspension; and
 - (d) 4th occasion, equates to a three (3) match suspension,
- to be served in the Club's next A-Leagues Match(es) and/or, in the case of the A-League Men, Australia Cup Match(es), (whichever come(s) first).
- 6.6 For the purposes of the accumulation of direct Player Red Cards as set out in clause 6.5:
- (a) if a Player is required to serve a suspension following identification of a Citation Incident pursuant to clauses 11.1(c)(i) and 11.1(c)(iii), that Player shall be deemed to have received a direct Player Red Card for that Citation Incident; and
 - (b) for the avoidance of doubt, if a direct Player Red Card issued to a Player is expunged in accordance with clause 11.9, that direct Player Red Card shall not be counted towards the accumulation of direct Player Red Cards.
- 6.7 Subject to clause 15.3, a Player issued with a Player Red Card during an A-Leagues Match:
- (a) must proceed directly to the Club's designated dressing room in the first instance;
 - (b) must not for the remainder of the A-Leagues Match, enter the field of play, the surrounds of the field of play or the Technical Area or occupy the Players' race;
 - (c) must not, until one (1) hour after the conclusion of the A-Leagues Match, have contact with:
 - (i) the Broadcast Partner or any other media where the purpose of such contact is for it to be electronically broadcast to the public, including (but not limited to) participating in any post-match press conference and participating in television or radio interviews; and

- (ii) any Player or Team Official while that person is in an area outlined in clause 6.7(b) above;
- (d) may, if the venue facilitates it, be escorted to a suitable secure area within the venue to observe the remainder of the A-Leagues Match. Should the venue not provide access to a coach's box or an alternative secure area, it will be at the discretion of the host Club to determine the most secure place for the Player to be positioned for the remainder of the A-Leagues Match; and
- (e) in the case of a Player who is a minor, an adult Team Official must remain with the minor at all times once they have left the field of play.

7. TEAM OFFICIAL YELLOW CARDS

7.1 A Team Official Yellow Card is issued by a Referee to a Team Official for the commission of the cautionable offences specified in the Laws of the Game, which include but are not limited to:

- Y-TO1 – dissent by word or action, including throwing / kicking drinks bottles or other objects and/or gestures which show a clear lack of respect for the Match Officials (e.g. sarcastic clapping)
- Y-TO2 – gesturing or acting in a provocative, derisory or inflammatory manner
- Y-TO3 – excessively / persistently gesturing for a Red Card or Yellow Card
- Y-TO4 – clearly / persistently not respecting the confines of their team's Technical Area
- Y-TO5 – deliberately entering the Technical Area of the opposing team (non-confrontational)
- Y-TO6 – delaying the restart of play by their team
- Y-TO7 – showing a lack of respect for the game
- Y-TO8 – persistent unacceptable behaviour (including repeated warning offences)
- Y-TO9 – entering the referee review area
- Y-TO10 – excessively showing the TV signal for a VAR 'review'

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- 7.2 FA must specify that a Team Official who accumulates a certain number of Team Official Yellow Cards during the course of the A-Leagues must serve a Mandatory Match Suspension.
- 7.3 The regulations detailing the suspensions for the accumulation of Team Official Yellow Cards during the:
- (a) A-League Women is in accordance with item 2 of Schedule 1; and
 - (b) A-League Men is in accordance with item 2 of Schedule 2.
- 7.4 If a Team Official receives two (2) Team Official Yellow Cards during the same A-Leagues Match and therefore receives an indirect Team Official Red Card, the two (2) Team Official Yellow Cards do not count for the purposes of accumulation.
- 7.5 If a Team Official receives a Yellow Card and then a direct Team Official Red Card in the same A-Leagues Match, the Team Official Yellow Card will count in the Team Official's accumulation of Yellow Cards. Further, if receipt of this Yellow Card means the Team Official must serve a Mandatory Match Suspension due to an accumulation of Team Official Yellow Cards in accordance with clauses 7.2 and 7.3, the suspensions for the accumulation of Team Official Yellow Cards and the direct Team Official Red Card respectively must be served consecutively and not concurrently.
- 7.6 The accumulation of Team Official Yellow Cards will be reset to zero at the end of the last A-Leagues Match of the Regular Season and any Finals Series respectively. This means that Team Official Yellow Cards accumulated in the Regular Season do not carry over to any Finals Series and Team Official Yellow Cards accumulated in the Finals Series do not carry over to the next Regular Season.
- 7.7 Match suspensions incurred as a result of the accumulation of Team Official Yellow Cards in either the Regular Season or Finals Series must be served in the next A-Leagues Match in which the Club competes whether that be in the Regular Season or Finals Series.
- 7.8 A Team Official Yellow Card issued to a Team Official during a Non-Fixture Match does not accumulate toward future matches.

8. TEAM OFFICIAL RED CARDS

- 8.1 A Team Official Red Card is an order given by the Referee to a Team Official to leave the field of play, its surrounds and the Technical Area, such order to be given at any time from when the

Referee enters the field of play for a pre-match A-Leagues Match inspection until they leave the field of play after the A-Leagues Match ends (including kicks from the penalty mark).

8.2 A Team Official Red Card is issued by a Referee to a Team Official for the commission of the sending-off offences specified in the Laws of the Game, which include but are not limited to:

- R-TO1 – violent conduct
- R-TO2 – physical or aggressive behaviour (including spitting or biting) towards an opposing Player, substitute, Team Official, Match Official, spectator or any other person (e.g. ball boy/girl, security or competition official)
- R-TO3 – using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures
- R-TO4 – biting or spitting at any person
- R-TO5 – entering the field of play to:
 - confront a Match Official (including at half-time and full-time)
 - interfere with play or an opposing Player or Match Official
- R-TO6 – deliberately leaving the technical area to:
 - show dissent towards, or remonstrate with, a Match Official
 - act in a provocative or inflammatory manner
- R-TO7 – enter the opposing technical area in an aggressive or confrontational manner
- R-TO8 – deliberately throwing/kicking an object onto the field of play
- R-TO9 – delaying the restart of play by the opposing team e.g. holding onto the ball, kicking the ball away, obstructing the movement of a Player
- R-TO10 – receiving a second Yellow Card in the same A-Leagues Match
- R-TO11 – entering the video operation room
- R-TO12 – using unauthorised electronic or communication equipment and/or behaving in an inappropriate manner as the result of using electronic or communication equipment

8.3 A Team Official Red Card is regarded as indirect if it is the result of the accumulation of two (2) Team Official Yellow Cards in the same A-Leagues Match and as direct in all other cases. Where a Team Official receives an indirect Team Official Red Card, they will serve a Mandatory Match

Suspension of one (1) A-Leagues Match or, in the case of the A-League Men, one (1) Australia Cup Match (whichever comes first).

8.4 FA must specify that a Team Official who accumulates a certain number of direct Team Official Red Cards during the course of the A-Leagues must serve a Mandatory Match Suspension.

8.5 Further to clause 8.4 but subject to clause 9.1 below, a Team Official who accumulates the following number of direct Team Official Red Cards during the Regular Season or Finals Series, must serve the following Mandatory Match Suspension:

- (a) 1st occasion, equates to a one (1) match suspension;
- (b) 2nd occasion, equates to a one (1) match suspension;
- (c) 3rd occasion, equates to a two (2) match suspension; and
- (d) 4th occasion, equates to a three (3) match suspension,

to be served in the Club's next A-Leagues Match(es) and/or, in the case of the A-League Men, Australia Cup Match(es), (whichever come(s) first).

8.6 For the purposes of the accumulation of direct Team Official Red Cards as set out in clause 8.5:

- (a) if a Team Official is required to serve a suspension following identification of a Citation Incident pursuant to clause 11.1(c)(ii), that Team Official shall be deemed to have received a direct Team Official Red Card for that Citation Incident; and
- (b) for the avoidance of doubt, if a direct Team Official Red Card issued to a Team Official is expunged in accordance with clause 11.9, that direct Team Official Red Card shall not be counted towards the accumulation of direct Red Cards.

8.7 Subject to clauses 8.8 and 15.3, a Team Official issued with a direct Team Official Red Card during an A-Leagues Match:

- (a) must proceed directly to the Club's designated dressing room in the first instance;
- (b) must not for the remainder of the A-Leagues Match, enter the field of play, the surrounds of the field of play or the Technical Area or occupy the Players' race;
- (c) must not, until one (1) hour after the conclusion of the A-Leagues Match, have contact with:
 - (i) the Broadcast Partner or any other media where the purpose of such contact is for it to be electronically broadcast to the public, including (but not limited to) participating in any post-match press conference and participating in television or radio interviews (with the exception of the Head Coach who will be required to fulfil their media commitments at the conclusion of the A-Leagues Match); and

- (ii) any Player or Team Official while that person is in an area outlined in clause 8.7(b) above other than where such contact is text-based communication only via a mobile or communication device and is otherwise permitted in accordance with the Mobile and Communication Devices Policy; and
 - (d) may, if the venue facilitates it, be escorted to a suitable secure area within the venue to observe the remainder of the A-Leagues Match. Should the venue not provide access to a coach's box or an alternative secure area, it will be at the discretion of the host Club to determine the most secure place for the Team Official to be positioned for the remainder of the A-Leagues Match.
- 8.8 A Club Doctor or Club Physiotherapist who is issued with a direct Team Official Red Card may remain in the Technical Area for the remainder of the A-Leagues Match if the Club does not have another medical person available and may act if a Player requires medical attention during the A-Leagues Match.
- 8.9 Otherwise than as permitted in accordance with the Laws of the Game or the Mobile and Communication Devices Policy, Players and/or Team Officials must not use electronic communication systems during an A-Leagues Match. FA may sanction a Club and/or a Club's Participants for any use of electronic communication systems in breach of the Laws of the Game or the Mobile and Communication Devices Policy during an A-Leagues Match.

9. PARTICIPANTS REGISTERED AS BOTH A PLAYER AND TEAM OFFICIAL

- 9.1 The regulations detailing the suspensions for Yellow Card accumulation for a Participant who is registered as both a Player and Team Official in the:
 - (a) A-League Women is in accordance with item 3 of Schedule 1; and
 - (b) A-League Men is in accordance with item 3 of Schedule 2.
- 9.2 A Participant who is registered as both a Player and Team Official in the A-Leagues and who accumulates the following number of direct Red Cards during the Regular Season or Finals Series, must serve the following Mandatory Match Suspension:
 - (a) 1st occasion, equates to a one (1) match suspension;
 - (b) 2nd occasion, equates to a one (1) match suspension;
 - (c) 3rd occasion, equates to a two (2) match suspension; and
 - (d) 4th occasion, equates to a three (3) match suspension,

to be served in the Club's next A-Leagues Match(es) and/or, in the case of A-League Men, Australia Cup Match(es), (whichever come(s) first).

10. TEAM MISCONDUCT

- 10.1 Each Club must ensure that its Participants do not engage in Team Misconduct.
- 10.2 Team Misconduct in relation to a Club is where:
- (a) five (5) of its Participants are cautioned or sent off during an A-Leagues Match;
 - (b) three (3) of its Participants are sent off during an A-Leagues Match;
 - (c) its Participants collectively show dissent towards a Match Official or collectively seek to intimidate, threaten or exert pressure on a Match Official to make or alter a decision; or
 - (d) its Participants engage in a melee or brawl.
- 10.3 For the avoidance of doubt, if a Participant receives a second Yellow Card in the same A-Leagues Match and therefore receives an indirect Red Card, only the indirect Red Card will count for the purposes of clause 10.2 above.
- 10.4 In accordance with the FIFA Disciplinary Code, FA may sanction a Club whose Participants engage in Team Misconduct.

PART C - DISCIPLINARY PROCESSES

11. MATCH REVIEW PANEL – POST MATCH REVIEW OF A-LEAGUES MATCHES

- 11.1 At the soonest practicable time(s) following each A-Leagues Match (typically, but is not restricted to, the Monday afternoon following the conclusion of a round (however so described in the official fixture list) of A-Leagues Matches), the Match Review Panel must, in the first instance, review all available Broadcast Footage of incidents and:
- (a) the Referee's Report and any Match Official Reports relating to incidents where a:
 - (i) Player has received a direct Player Red Card for a Player Red Card Offence; and
 - (ii) Team Official has received a direct Team Official Red Card for a Team Official Red Card Offence;
 - (b) determine any:
 - (i) Obvious Error (Red Card) Application(s) made by Participants pursuant to clause 11.5 in accordance with clauses 11.5 to 11.12; or
 - (ii) Obvious Error (Yellow Card Simulation) Application(s) made by Players pursuant to clause 11.13 in accordance with clauses 11.13 to 11.19;
 - (c) identify Citation Incidents being incidents involving a:
 - (i) Player which in its opinion based upon Law 12 of the Laws of the Game should have been sanctioned with a direct Player Red Card, that escaped the Referee's attention (as defined by clause 11.2), other than Offence 1 of the Players Table of Offences (Denying the opposing team a clear goal-scoring opportunity);
 - (ii) Team Official which in its opinion based on the Laws of the Game should have been sanctioned with a direct Team Official Red Card, that escaped the Referee's attention (as defined by clause 11.2); or
 - (iii) incidents of Simulation committed by Players that were not detected by the Referee during the A-Leagues Match;
 - (d) determine whether incidents under either clause 11.1(a) or 11.1(c)(i) and 11.1(c)(ii) are Category 1 and/or Category 2 Offences, as specified in the Players Table of Offences or Team Officials Table of Offences; and
 - (e) in respect of the incidents reviewed, follow the procedures applicable to each incident as prescribed in clauses 11.20 to 11.51 which in each case will lead to notification to the Participant in accordance with these Regulations.

11.2 For the purposes of these Regulations, an incident has escaped the attention of the Referee if the Match Review Panel, after a review of:

- (a) the Broadcast Footage;
- (b) any Referee's and Match Official Reports; and
- (c) if available, any verified technical venue footage (to be reviewed only if requested by the Match Review Panel in its sole and absolute discretion),

in its sole opinion, determines that:

- (d) either the Referee did not see the specific incident in question, or their view of the incident was not sufficiently clear for them to rule on the incident, or the incident was not drawn to their attention by an assistant referee, fourth official or, if applicable, the VAR; and
- (e) if applicable, the VAR did not see the specific incident in question.

The Match Review Panel, in making its determination, will, if necessary, seek confirmation from the Referee and the VAR that the incident escaped their attention. Any decision of the Match Review Panel that the incident escaped the attention of the Referee is final and may not be challenged before a Judicial Body.

11.3 For the avoidance of doubt, when determining an incident in accordance with clause 11.1(d), the Match Review Panel may classify an incident as both a Category 1 and Category 2 Offence, as specified in the Players Table of Offences or Team Officials Table of Offences (as applicable) where the incident comprises more than one Offence (such as an Offence of R1 serious foul play followed immediately by an Offence of R6 unsporting conduct towards a Match Official).

11.4 In exercising its powers under these Regulations to determine any sanction, the Match Review Panel may have regard to the Participant's past disciplinary record.

Obvious Error (Red Card) Application

11.5 Where a:

- (a) Player believes that the Referee has made an Obvious Error in issuing the Player with a direct Player Red Card, the Player may; or
- (b) Team Official believes that a Referee has made an Obvious Error in issuing the Team Official with a direct Team Official Red Card, the Team Official may,

make an Obvious Error (Red Card) Application.

11.6 An Obvious Error (Red Card) Application must:

- (a) take the form of Prescribed Form DR01;

- (b) be submitted to FA by 11:00am (local time in Sydney, Australia) on the next day following the A-Leagues Match to which the Obvious Error (Red Card) Application relates, time being of the essence;
 - (c) attach any written submissions made on behalf of the Participant; and
 - (d) be accompanied by a payment to FA of \$500.00.
- 11.7 The Match Review Panel will consider an Obvious Error (Red Card) Application on the following evidence only:
 - (a) the available Broadcast Footage;
 - (b) Match Official Reports;
 - (c) if available, any verified technical venue footage; and
 - (d) any written submissions made on behalf of the Participant.
- 11.8 The Match Review Panel will determine the Obvious Error (Red Card) Application.
- 11.9 If the Match Review Panel allows the Obvious Error (Red Card) Application, in the case of a:
 - (a) Player, the Player is not required to serve the Mandatory Match Suspension, the fee is refunded and:
 - (i) the Player Red Card is expunged from the Player's disciplinary record and does not count for the purposes of accumulation; and
 - (ii) if the Match Review Panel determines that a Player Yellow Card was warranted, the Player is deemed to have been issued with a Player Yellow Card and that Player Yellow Card is added to the Player's disciplinary record and, for the avoidance of doubt, that Player Yellow Card does count for the purposes of accumulation; and
 - (b) Team Official, the Team Official is not required to serve the Mandatory Match Suspension, the fee is refunded and:
 - (i) the Team Official Red Card is expunged from the record of the Team Official and does not count for the purposes of accumulation; or
 - (ii) if the Match Review Panel determines that a Team Official Yellow Card was warranted, the Team Official is deemed to have been issued with a Team Official Yellow Card and that Team Official Yellow Card is added to the Team Official's disciplinary record and, for the avoidance of doubt, that Team Official Yellow Card does count for the purposes of accumulation.
- 11.10 If the Match Review Panel rejects the Obvious Error (Red Card) Application and the Match Review Panel considers that it was frivolous, the Match Review Panel must impose a further

one (1) match suspension (in addition to any other applicable match suspension) to be served in an A-Leagues Match or, in the case of the A-League Men, Australia Cup Match (whichever comes first).

- 11.11 A decision of the Match Review Panel to allow an Obvious Error (Red Card) Application must be unanimous.
- 11.12 For the avoidance of doubt, there is no right of appeal or other review of the determination of the Match Review Panel of an Obvious Error (Red Card) Application or any additional sanction imposed pursuant to clause 11.10 and accordingly, the Mandatory Match Suspension must be served.

Obvious Error (Yellow Card Simulation) Application

- 11.13 Where a Player believes that the Referee has made an Obvious Error in issuing the Player with a Player Yellow Card due to another Participant being guilty of Simulation, the Player may make an Obvious Error (Yellow Card Simulation) Application.
- 11.14 An Obvious Error (Yellow Card Simulation) Application must:
- (a) take the form of Prescribed Form DR01;
 - (b) be submitted to FA by 11:00am (local time in Sydney, Australia) on the next day following the A-Leagues Match to which Obvious Error (Yellow Card Simulation) Application relates, time being of the essence;
 - (c) attach any written submissions made on behalf of the Participant; and
 - (d) be accompanied by a payment to FA of \$500.00.
- 11.15 The Match Review Panel will consider an Obvious Error (Yellow Card Simulation) Application on the following evidence only:
- (a) the available Broadcast Footage;
 - (b) Match Official Reports;
 - (c) if available, any verified technical venue footage; and
 - (d) any written submissions made on behalf of the Player.
- 11.16 The Match Review Panel will, if it considers that there is a case to answer under clause 11.49 in relation to the alleged Simulation, refer the Obvious Error (Yellow Card Simulation) Application to the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee to determine (together with the Citation Incident that relates to the alleged Simulation).
- 11.17 If the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee allows the Obvious Error (Yellow Card Simulation) Application referred to it under clause 11.16, if the Player incurred:
- (a) an indirect Player Red Card, then:

- (i) the Player is not required to serve the Mandatory Match Suspension;
 - (ii) the fee is refunded; and
 - (iii) the Player Yellow Card issued due to another Participant being guilty of Simulation is expunged from the Player's disciplinary record; or
 - (b) only one (1) Player Yellow Card due to another Participant engaging in Simulation:
 - (i) that Player Yellow Card does not count for the purposes of accumulation;
 - (ii) the fee is refunded; and
 - (iii) the Player Yellow Card is expunged from the Player's disciplinary record.
- 11.18 If the Match Review Panel determines that there is no case to answer under clause 11.49 in relation to the alleged Simulation and rejects the Obvious Error (Yellow Card Simulation) Application, and the Match Review Panel considers that it was frivolous, the Match Review Panel must impose a fine of \$1,000 on the Player who made the Obvious Error (Yellow Card Simulation) Application.
- 11.19 For the avoidance of doubt, there is no right of appeal or other review of the determination of the Match Review Panel's decision on whether to refer an Obvious Error (Yellow Card Simulation) Application to the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.

Category 1 Offences – direct Player Red Cards or direct Team Official Red Cards

- 11.20 The following procedure applies to incidents which the Match Review Panel after conducting its review under clause 11.1(a) has determined are Category 1 Offences and in relation to which an Obvious Error (Red Card) Application has either not been received or having been received has not been allowed under clause 11.9.
- 11.21 The Match Review Panel will apply the Range at the Table of Offences to the facts of the case to determine what sanction, if any, it proposes should apply in addition to the Minimum Sanction (inclusive of the Mandatory Match Suspension). For the avoidance of doubt, the Match Review Panel is not bound by the categorisation of any offence by the Referee or other Match Official and may determine that there is more than one Offence disclosed in the incident, in which case the sanctions for such Offences will be cumulative.
- 11.22 Where a Player receives a direct Player Red Card and the Match Review Panel determines that
- (a) the applicable Category 1 Offence is Offence No. 1 of the Players Table of Offences (Denying the opposing team a clear goal-scoring opportunity); and
 - (b) the applicable sanction is, in accordance with the Range at the Table of Offences, the Mandatory Match Suspension,

the Match Review Panel may determine the sanction by way of circular resolution, subject to any Obvious Error (Red Card) Application being submitted under clause 11.5, provided always that any such process complies with clause 4.5.

- 11.23 If the Match Review Panel, applying the Range at the Table of Offences, proposes a sanction of up to four (4) matches (inclusive of the Mandatory Match Suspension), it must issue a Disciplinary Notice to the Participant (through the Participant's Club) that includes:
- (a) the proposed sanction being the:
 - (i) Minimum Sanction (inclusive of the Mandatory Match Suspension which must always be served); and
 - (ii) if applicable, any additional sanction above the Minimum Sanction;
 - (b) the time by which the Participant must respond to FA to advise whether or not they accept the proposed sanction; and
 - (c) notification that if a response is not received by the time specified, the proposed sanction will be deemed to be accepted.
- 11.24 Upon receipt of a Disciplinary Notice proposing a sanction (issued pursuant to clause 11.23), the Participant may elect to:
- (a) accept the proposed sanction; or
 - (b) refer to the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee for hearing and Determination of:
 - (i) what additional sanction should be imposed (above the Minimum Sanction (inclusive of the Mandatory Match Suspension which must always be served)), applying the Range at the Table of Offences in accordance with these Regulations; and/or
 - (ii) whether Exceptional Circumstances apply and therefore a sanction outside of the Range at the Table of Offences should be imposed, provided always that the Mandatory Match Suspension must be served; and/or
 - (iii) whether the Offence should be re-classified in accordance with the Table of Offences under these Regulations, and if so what sanction should be imposed applying the Range at the Table of Offences in accordance with these Regulations, provided always that the Mandatory Match Suspension must be served,
 - (c) such election to be communicated to FA by the time specified in the Disciplinary Notice and accompanied by a fee of \$1,000. Where no such election is made in accordance with the time limits imposed by these Regulations, time being of the essence, the Participant is deemed to have accepted the proposed sanction. If the Disciplinary and

Ethics Committee imposes a sanction which is lesser than the sanction proposed by the Match Review Panel, the fee will be refunded to the Participant.

- 11.25 At a hearing conducted pursuant to a referral under clause 11.24(b), the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee:
- (a) must determine any application that the offence be re-classified;
 - (b) must make a Determination as to sanction applying the Range at the Table of Offences and in accordance with and subject to clause 13 of these Regulations; and
 - (c) must provide written reasons for its Determination in accordance with clause 22.4.
- 11.26 The Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may only re-classify an offence where it determines that the evidence does not establish that the Participant has committed the Offence as charged but does establish that the Participant has committed a separate offence, provided always that the Mandatory Match Suspension must be served.
- 11.27 Where the Match Review Panel, applying the Range at the Table of Offences, forms the view that a sanction of greater than four (4) matches (inclusive of the Mandatory Match Suspension) is warranted (including where the incident under review discloses more than one Offence and the cumulative sanctions that would apply to those Offences are greater than four (4) matches), the Match Review Panel must issue a Disciplinary Notice that:
- (a) notifies the Participant (through the Participant's Club) of the Mandatory Match Suspension which must always be served; and
 - (b) refers the matter to the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee for hearing and Determination of the question of what additional sanction should be imposed (above the Mandatory Match Suspension which must always be served) applying the Range at the Table of Offences in accordance with these Regulations.
- 11.28 At a hearing conducted pursuant to a referral under clause 11.27(b), the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee:
- (a) must make a Determination as to sanction, applying the Range at the Table of Offences and in accordance with and subject to clause 13 of these Regulations; and
 - (b) must provide written reasons for its Determination in accordance with clause 22.4.
- 11.29 The Mandatory Match Suspension that applies to a Participant under these Regulations as a consequence of the receipt of a Player Red Card or Team Official Red Card, is of effect notwithstanding that the Match Review Panel does not notify the Participant of the Mandatory Match Suspension.

Category 1 Offences – Citation Incidents that have escaped the Referee's attention

- 11.30 The following procedure applies to Citation Incidents that the Match Review Panel has identified pursuant to its review under clauses 11.1(c)(i) and 11.1(c)(ii) and which it has determined would be Category 1 Offences if found to be committed.
- 11.31 If the Match Review Panel has determined that on the basis of the evidence reviewed, there is a case for the Participant to show cause why an Offence should not be found to have been committed, the Match Review Panel will issue to the Participant a Show Cause Notice.
- 11.32 The Show Cause Notice must include:
- (a) notification of the Citation Incident;
 - (b) notification that the Match Review Panel considers there is case to answer that a Category 1 Offence has been committed;
 - (c) the Minimum Sanction which will apply to the Participant if they are found to have committed the Offence;
 - (d) notification providing the Participant the opportunity to show cause as to why an Offence should not be found to have been committed; and
 - (e) the time by which the Participant must file with FA its submissions with respect to the Show Cause Notice.
- 11.33 The Match Review Panel will reconvene on Tuesday afternoon, or at the nearest alternative time available, to:
- (a) consider the Citation Incident, including any submissions received from the Participant in response to the Show Cause Notice;
 - (b) determine whether an Offence has been committed; and
 - (c) if it determines an Offence has been committed, apply the Range at the Table of Offences to the facts of the case to determine what sanction, if any, it proposes should apply in addition to the Minimum Sanction (inclusive of the Mandatory Match Suspension).
- 11.34 If the Match Review Panel determines that an Offence has not been committed, FA will notify the Participant accordingly.
- 11.35 If the Match Review Panel determines that an Offence has been committed, and applying the Range at the Table of Offences, proposes a sanction of up to four (4) matches (inclusive of the Mandatory Match Suspension), it must issue a Disciplinary Notice to the Participant (through the Participant's Club) that includes:
- (a) the proposed sanction being the:
 - (i) Minimum Sanction (inclusive of the Mandatory Match Suspension which must always be served); and

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- (ii) if applicable, any additional sanction above the Minimum Sanction;
 - (b) the time by which the Participant must respond to FA to advise whether they accept the proposed sanction; and
 - (c) notification that if a response is not received by the time specified, the proposed sanction will be deemed to be accepted.
- 11.36 Upon receipt of a Disciplinary Notice proposing a sanction (issued pursuant to clause 11.35), the Participant may elect to:
- (a) accept the proposed sanction; or
 - (b) refer the matter to the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee for hearing and Determination of:
 - (i) what additional sanction should be imposed (above the Minimum Sanction (inclusive of the Mandatory Match Suspension which must always be served)), applying the Range at the Table of Offences in accordance with these Regulations; and/or
 - (ii) whether Exceptional Circumstances apply and therefore a sanction outside of the Range at the Table of Offences should be imposed, provided always that the Mandatory Match Suspension must be served; and/or
 - (iii) whether the offence should be re-classified in accordance with the Table of Offences under these Regulations and, if so, what sanction should be imposed applying the Range at the Table of Offences in accordance with these Regulations, provided always that the Mandatory Match Suspension must be served,
- such election to be communicated to FA by the time specified in the Disciplinary Notice and accompanied by a fee of \$1,000. Where no such election is made in accordance with the time limits imposed by these Regulations, time being of the essence, the Participant is deemed to have accepted the proposed sanction. If the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee imposes a sanction which is lesser than the sanction proposed by the Match Review Panel, the fee will be refunded to the Participant.
- 11.37 At a hearing conducted pursuant to a referral under clause 11.36(b), the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee:
- (a) must determine any application that the offence be re-classified;
 - (b) must make a Determination as to sanction applying the Range at the Table of Offences and in accordance with and subject to clause 13 of these Regulations; and
 - (c) must provide written reasons for its Determination in accordance with clause 22.4.
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- 11.38 The Disciplinary and Ethics Committee may only re-classify an offence where it determines that the evidence does not establish that the Participant has committed the Offence as charged but does establish that the Participant has committed a separate offence, provided always that the Mandatory Match Suspension must be served.
- 11.39 Where the Match Review Panel determines that an Offence has been committed and applying the Range at the Table of Offences, forms the view that a sanction of greater than four (4) matches (inclusive of the Mandatory Match Suspension) is warranted, the Match Review Panel must issue a Disciplinary Notice that:
- (a) notifies the Participant (through the Participant's Club) of the Mandatory Match Suspension which must always be served;
 - (b) refers the matter to the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee for hearing and Determination of the question of what additional sanction should be imposed (above the Mandatory Match Suspension which must always be served) applying the Range at the Table of Offences in accordance with these Regulations.
- 11.40 At a hearing conducted pursuant to a referral under clause 11.39(b), the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee:
- (a) must make a Determination as to sanction, applying the Range at the Table of Offences and in accordance with and subject to clause 13 of these Regulations; and
 - (b) must provide written reasons for its Determination in accordance with clause 22.4.

Category 2 Offences – direct Player Red Cards or direct Team Official Red Cards

- 11.41 The following procedure applies to incidents which the Match Review Panel after conducting its review under clause 11.1(a) has determined incidents are Category 2 Offences and in relation to which an Obvious Error (Red Card) Application has either not been received or having been received has not been allowed under clause 11.9.
- 11.42 The Match Review Panel will refer the incident to the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee for hearing to determine whether, having regard to all the circumstances, the Offence is (or Offences are) sufficiently proven to warrant the imposition of an additional sanction in addition to the Mandatory Match Suspension which must always be served.
- 11.43 In such circumstances the Match Review Panel must issue a Disciplinary Notice that:
- (a) notifies the Participant (through the Participant's Club) of the Mandatory Match Suspension, which must always be served; and
 - (b) refers the matter to the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee for hearing to determine whether, having regard to all the circumstances, the Offence is sufficiently proven to warrant the imposition of an additional sanction in addition to the Mandatory Match Suspension which must always be served.

- 11.44 At a hearing conducted pursuant to a referral under clause 11.43(b), the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee:
- (a) must make a Determination as to whether an additional sanction over and above the Mandatory Match Suspension is warranted;
 - (b) whilst limited to determining the question of any additional sanction, may have regard to, but is not bound by the Range at the Table of Offences;
 - (c) if it determines that the imposition of an additional sanction over and above the Mandatory Match Suspension is not warranted must pronounce this Determination, which does not lead to the Player Red Card being expunged from the Player's disciplinary record or the Team Official Red Card being expunged from the Team Official's disciplinary record, as the case may be; and
 - (d) may, but is not required under clause 22.4 to provide reasons for its Determination that a further sanction is not warranted.

Category 2 Offences – Citation Incidents that have escaped the Referee's attention

- 11.45 The following procedure applies to Citation Incidents that the Match Review Panel has identified pursuant to its review under clauses 11.1(c)(i) and 11.1(c)(ii) and which it has determined would be Category 2 Offences if found to be committed.
- 11.46 If the Match Review Panel has determined that on the basis of the evidence reviewed, there is a case for the Participant to answer that a Category 2 Offence has been committed, the Match Review Panel will issue to the Participant (through the Participant's Club) a Disciplinary Notice that:
- (a) notifies the Participant of the Citation Incident;
 - (b) notifies that the Match Review Panel considers there is case to answer that a Category 2 Offence has been committed;
 - (c) refers the matter directly to the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee for hearing as to whether an Offence has been committed, and if so, what sanction should be imposed.
- 11.47 At a hearing conducted pursuant to a referral under clause 11.46, the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee:
- (a) must make a Determination as to whether an Offence has been committed and if so, what sanction should apply, applying the Range at the Table of Offences;
 - (b) must determine any sanction in accordance with and subject to clause 13 of these Regulations; and
 - (c) must provide written reasons for its Determination in accordance with clause 22.4.

Obvious Error – Simulation Citations

- 11.48 The following procedure applies to Citation Incidents that the Match Review Panel has identified pursuant to its review under clause 11.1(c)(iii).
- 11.49 Where the Match Review Panel, after reviewing the Citation Incident, unanimously forms the view that there is a case to answer that:
- (a) a Participant is guilty of Simulation;
 - (b) the Referee has made an Obvious Error in failing to detect the Simulation; and
 - (c) the Simulation committed by the Participant, resulted in:
 - (i) a penalty kick being awarded to the Participant's team, such decision to award a penalty kick being one that no Referee in the possession of all the facts, including the Broadcast Footage, could reasonably have made;
 - (ii) a Player Red Card being issued to a Player and such Player Red Card is one determined by the Match Review Panel, on application from the Player in accordance with clause 11.5, to be expunged in accordance with clause 11.9; or
 - (iii) a Player Yellow Card being issued to a Player and such Player Yellow Card is the subject of an Obvious Error (Yellow Card Simulation) Application from the Player in accordance with clause 11.13,
- the Match Review Panel must issue a Disciplinary Notice.
- 11.50 The Disciplinary Notice must:
- (a) notify the Participant (through the Participant's Club) of the Citation Incident;
 - (b) notify the Participant that the Match Review Panel considers there is a case to answer in accordance with clause 11.49; and
 - (c) refer the matter directly to the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee for hearing in accordance with clause 11.51.
- 11.51 At a hearing conducted pursuant to a referral under clause 11.50, the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee:
- (a) must make a Determination as to whether all three (3) elements set out in clauses 11.49(a) to 11.49(c) are established;
 - (b) if it determines that all three (3) elements set out in clauses 11.49(a) to 11.49(c) are established, must impose a sanction of suspension of:
 - (i) two (2) matches (A-Leagues Match(es) and/or, if applicable in the case of the A-League Men, Australia Cup Match(es), whichever come(s) first) where the Simulation committed by the Participant resulted in:

- (A) a penalty kick being awarded to the Participant's team in accordance with clause 11.49(c)(i);
 - (B) a Player Red Card being issued to a Player in accordance with 11.49(c)(ii); or
 - (C) an indirect Player Red Card being issued to a Player due to that Player receiving a Player Yellow Card in accordance with clause 11.49(c)(iii); or
 - (ii) one (1) match (A-Leagues Match or, if applicable Australia Cup Match, whichever comes first) where the Simulation committed by the Participant resulted in a Player Yellow Card being issued to a Player in accordance with clause 11.49(c)(iii); and
 - (c) must provide written reasons for its Determination in accordance with clause 22.4.
- 11.52 Where the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee determines that all three (3) elements set out in clause 11.49(a) to 11.49(c) are established for a Citation Incident to which an Obvious Error (Yellow Card Simulation) Application relates, the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee must allow the Obvious Error (Yellow Card Simulation) Application and grant the affected Player the relief set out in clause 11.17.

Obvious Error – FA Citations

11.53 Where FA in its sole and absolute discretion believes:

- (a) that a Referee has made an Obvious Error; and
- (b) a failure to remedy the Obvious Error would be prejudicial to the interests or good image of football in Australia,

FA may issue to the Participant a Disciplinary Notice that:

- (c) includes reasonable details of the alleged Offence; and
- (d) refers the matter to the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee for hearing to determine whether an Offence has been committed and if so, what sanction should be imposed in accordance with these Regulations.

Rectification of Cards Issued in Error in Cases of Mistaken Identity

11.54 If a Match Official informs FA in writing or FA is satisfied that a Match Official in error issued a:

- (a) Player Yellow Card and/or Player Red Card during an A-Leagues Match to a Player instead of to another Player (being the Player who the Match Official advises should have received the card as the Player who committed the offence attracting the card); or

- (b) Team Official Yellow Card and/or Team Official Red Card to a Team Official instead of another Team Official (being the Team Official who the Match Official advises should have received the card as the Team Official who committed the offence attracting the card),
then:
- (c) FA, as the regulator of the A-Leagues, will rescind the Player Yellow Card and/or Player Red Card or Team Official Yellow Card and/or Team Official Red Card issued to the first-mentioned Player or Team Official;
- (d) the Player who received the Player Yellow Card and/or Player Red Card, or the Team Official who received the Team Official Yellow Card and/or Team Official Red Card, incorrectly will not be required to serve any suspension (if any) that was triggered as a result of receiving such Player Yellow Card and/or Player Red Card or Team Official Yellow Card and/or Team Official Red Card; and
- (e) the Player Yellow Card and/or Player Red Card or Team Official Yellow Card and/or Team Official Red Card which is rescinded pursuant to paragraph (c) immediately above will not count towards the calculation of accumulation pursuant to clauses 5.3, 6.5, 7.3 and/or 8.5, as the case may be.

Investigations Officer

- 11.55 FA may appoint an Investigations Officer to investigate an incident during a match involving a Participant that has escaped the Referee's attention and of which there is no or only partial Broadcast Footage.
- 11.56 FA may on receipt of a report from the Investigations Officer, issue a Disciplinary Notice to the Participant that:
 - (a) includes reasonable details of the alleged Offence; and
 - (b) refers the matter to the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee for hearing to determine if an Offence has been committed and if so, what sanction should be imposed in accordance with these Regulations.

12. NOTICES

- 12.1 A Show Cause Notice or Disciplinary Notice issued to a Participant pursuant to clause 11 must contain the information specified in the clause pursuant to which the Show Cause Notice or Disciplinary Notice has been issued.
- 12.2 A person notifying or giving notice under these Regulations must notify in writing and in English.
- 12.3 Show Cause Notices and Disciplinary Notices to Participants are deemed to be received by the Participant if notified to the Participant's Club.

PART D - SANCTIONS

13. RIGHT TO SANCTION

13.1 A Judicial Body:

- (a) may, subject to these Regulations, impose the types of sanctions as specified in the FA Constitution;
- (b) must determine the scope and duration of each sanction in accordance with these Regulations;
- (c) must determine what sanction it considers should apply in accordance with the Range at the Table of Offences, subject to clause 13.3, which in the case of:
 - (i) a matter referred from the Match Review Panel in relation to a proposed suspension in addition to the Mandatory Match Suspension;
 - (ii) an appeal from the Determination of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee; or
 - (iii) an appeal against a decision of FA pursuant to clause 24.2,may be the same as, less or greater than the sanction proposed by the Match Review Panel or the sanction imposed by the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee or FA, whichever applies; and
- (d) is not bound by the categorisation of an offence by the Referee, other Match Official or the Match Review Panel.

13.2 When determining any appropriate sanction in accordance with the Range at the Table of Offences, a Judicial Body may consider:

- (a) the nature and severity of the Offence, including whether it was intentional, negligent or reckless;
- (b) the Participant's past disciplinary record and whether or not this is a repeated Offence;
- (c) the remorse of the Participant; and
- (d) any extenuating circumstances relevant to the commission of the Offence.

- 13.3 A sanction outside of the Range at the Table of Offences may be imposed by a Judicial Body only in Exceptional Circumstances that must be detailed in the Determination, provided always that the Mandatory Match Suspension must be served.
- 13.4 FA may, where appropriate, impose further sanctions if a Participant contravenes the terms of a sanction imposed under these Regulations.

14. NATURE AND FORM OF SANCTIONS

- 14.1 Where a Judicial Body imposes a sanction involving a suspension from participating as either a Player or Team Official in A-Leagues Matches or, where applicable, Australia Cup Matches (whether by reference to a number of matches or period of time), the sanction must:
- (a) impose a continuous suspension;
 - (b) not be structured in more than one (1) part or in any way that allows the Participant to serve the suspension in a fragmented way by participating in a certain match or matches (in whatever competition) and then resuming the suspension.

Suspended portion of sanctions for probationary period

- 14.2 Where a sanction is fewer than six (6) matches if the sanction is given in terms of matches, or fewer than six (6) months if the sanction is given in terms of a period of time, a Judicial Body may order that part of the match suspension or time suspension:
- (a) comes into immediate effect; and
 - (b) the other part does not come into effect unless and until an additional Offence is committed during a specified probationary period (i.e. is suspended).
- 14.3 If a Judicial Body imposes a match suspension or time suspension where part is suspended under clause 14.2:
- (a) the part of the sanction that comes into immediate effect must be at least one half of the total sanction to be imposed, which, for the avoidance of doubt, includes the Mandatory Match Suspension;
 - (b) subject to clause 13.3, no part of a sanction may be suspended which results in a Participant, in relation to the part of the sanction that comes into immediate effect, serving less than the Minimum Sanction; and
 - (c) the Judicial Body must specify:
 - (i) the types of Offences which, if committed, activate the suspended part of the sanction; and

- (ii) the length of the probationary period which must be a period between six (6) months and twenty-four (24) months.

14.4 Where a Judicial Body imposes a match suspension or time suspension where part is suspended, if the Participant within the specified probationary period commits an Offence that triggers the suspended part, that suspended part is then to be served in addition to any sanction that is imposed for the new Offence.

Fines

14.5 All fines imposed under these Regulations must be paid within fourteen (14) days of the date on which the fine is imposed unless otherwise agreed by FA.

14.6 The Participant cannot take part in any A-Leagues Match or Australia Cup Match until a fine imposed on them under these Regulations is paid in full. This means that if a match suspension is combined with a fine, the suspension is prolonged until the fine is paid in full.

14.7 A fine:

- (a) cannot be issued against an Amateur; and
- (b) in the case of a Professional, cannot exceed one half of the Total Payments that Participant would have received over the duration of the sanction.

14.8 A Club is jointly and severally liable for a fine imposed on one of its Participants (even if that Participant subsequently leaves that Club).

Sanction for Team Misconduct

14.9 If FA determines that the Participants of a Club have committed Team Misconduct, FA may impose any of the sanctions as specified in the FA Constitution.

14.10 Any decision by FA that a Club has committed Team Misconduct is final and not subject to appeal. The Club may appeal the severity of the sanction imposed by FA to the Appeal Committee in accordance with clauses 23.2 and 23.5.

14.11 Except where FA in its absolute discretion determines otherwise, the following sanctions will apply to Clubs who breach either clause 10.2(a) or 10.2(b) of the Regulations during applicable A-Leagues season:

- (a) 1st to 4th occasions, equates to a \$500 fine, suspended until the conclusion of the A-Leagues season and it will become payable in the event the Club is subsequently found guilty of a further breach of clause 10.2(a) or 10.2(b);
- (b) 5th and 6th occasions, equates to a \$1,000 fine, suspended until the conclusion of the A-Leagues season and it will become payable in the event the Club is subsequently found guilty of a further breach of clause 10.2(a) or 10.2(b);

- (c) 7th occasion, equates to a \$1,500 fine, suspended until the conclusion of the A-Leagues season and it will become payable in the event the Club is subsequently found guilty of a further breach of clause 10.2(a) or 10.2(b); and
- (d) 8th and subsequent occasions, a sanction to be determined by FA.

15. SERVING A SUSPENSION

Objectives

15.1 The objective of these Regulations is that:

- (a) Participants serve suspensions in the A-Leagues (being the competition in which the Offence was committed) and/or, in the case of the A-League Men, the Australia Cup;
- (b) during the A-Leagues seasons and Australia Cup season, a Player or Team Official subject to a suspension may not play or participate in other competitions and, depending on the severity of the Offence, this may also apply to Non-playing Periods;
- (c) sanctions operate so that the full quantum of the sanctions imposed by applying the Range at the Table of Offences is actually served in the A-Leagues and/or, in the case of the A-League Men, the Australia Cup; and
- (d) in relation to serving suspensions, the timing of when a sanction is imposed and the timing of the A-Leagues or Australia Cup off-season should not produce a different result for Participants committing like Offences.

Effect of suspension

15.2 Subject to clause 15.3, while serving a suspension or if ineligible to participate pursuant to clause 15.9, a Participant may not:

- (a) on the day an A-Leagues Match is being conducted, enter the field of play, the surrounds of the field of play, the Technical Area, the players' race, the dressing rooms or any other place within a Venue where Participants are likely to assemble to prepare for that A-Leagues Match;
- (b) if attending an A-Leagues Match, be seated in a Venue area normally reserved for Participants; and
- (c) within two (2) hours of the start of the A-Leagues Match from which the Participant is suspended and within one hour of the conclusion of the A-Leagues Match from which the Participant is suspended have any contact with:
 - (i) the Broadcast Partner or any other media where the purpose of such contact is for it to be electronically broadcast to the public, including (but not limited to)

participating in any post-match press conference and participating in television or radio interviews; and

- (ii) any Participant while that Participant is in an area included within clause 15.2(a) above other than where the suspended Participant is a Team Official and such contact is text-based communication only via a mobile or communication device and is otherwise permitted in accordance with the Mobile and Communication Devices Policy.

15.3 In the event there is a post-match presentation for an A-Leagues Match (for example, the A-Leagues championship trophy presentation), a Participant that:

- (a) has, in relation to that A-Leagues Match, been issued with a Player Red Card or Team Official Red Card; or
- (b) is serving a suspension in that A-Leagues Match, may at the conclusion of the A-Leagues Match:
 - (i) enter the field of play, the surrounds of the field, Technical Area or the Players' race to participate in the post-match presentation; and
 - (ii) have contact with the Broadcast Partner or any other media where the purpose of such contact is for it to be electronically broadcast to the public,

unless determined otherwise by FA in its sole and absolute discretion.

Failure to comply with sanctions

15.4 FA in its sole and absolute discretion may impose further disciplinary sanctions on a Participant for breaching or otherwise failing to comply with the terms of a sanction imposed by FA or a Judicial Body in accordance with clauses 15.5-15.8 below.

15.5 The scope and implementation of disciplinary sanctions which may be imposed by FA is as specified in article 21.5 of the FA Constitution.

15.6 If FA elects to impose further disciplinary sanctions on a Participant pursuant to clause 15.4 above, it must provide the Participant with:

- (a) a notice containing particulars of the alleged breach; and
- (b) an opportunity to show cause as to why further disciplinary sanctions should not be imposed.

- 15.7 If the Participant wishes to show cause as to why further disciplinary sanctions should not be imposed pursuant to clause 15.6(b) above, he/she must do so by the time and in the form specified in the notice provided by FA pursuant to clause 15.6(a) above.
- 15.8 If a Participant disputes a decision made by FA, or sanction imposed by FA on a Participant pursuant to clause 15.4, that party may appeal in accordance with the Judicial Bodies By-Law provided that it does so in writing within 7 business days of notice of the sanction.

Eligibility

- 15.9 If a matter is referred to the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee, the Participant is ineligible to participate in any Regulated Football Match in the capacity of either Player or Team Official until the final Determination of the matter.
- 15.10 Subject to clause 15.11, a Participant who is suspended in the A-Leagues may not participate in any Regulated Football Match in the capacity of either Player or Team Official until they have served their suspension. Provided that the suspension is not for more than six (6) matches (if the sanction is given in terms of matches) or two (2) months (if the sanction is given in terms of a period of time), a Participant may participate in friendlies or non-competition matches during the period of suspension unless determined otherwise by FA in its sole and absolute discretion.
- 15.11 Provided that the suspension is not for more than six (6) matches if the sanction is given in terms of matches or two (2) months if the sanction is given in terms of a period of time, if a Participant has not completed their suspension at the commencement of a Non-playing Period, they may, subject to the competition rules governing those Regulated Football Matches, participate in other Regulated Football Matches (excluding Australia Cup Matches) during a Non-playing Period. The Participant must complete their suspension in the A-Leagues or, if applicable, the Australia Cup at the commencement of the next A-Leagues and/or the Australia Cup season as applicable.
- 15.12 Subject to clauses 15.13, 5.7, 7.7 and 16, a Participant must serve their suspension in the next A-Leagues Match(es) and/or, if applicable in the case of the A-League Men, Australia Cup Match(es) (whichever come(s) first) in which their team participates.
- 15.13 Unless otherwise specified in a Disciplinary Notice issued to a Participant in accordance with these Regulations:
- (a) a Participant must serve their suspension in the A-League Men or A-League Women (whichever is applicable), being the competition in which the Offence occurred; and
 - (b) to the extent that a Participant is eligible to participate in both the A-League Men and A-League Women, that Participant will be ineligible to participate in the A-Leagues until such a suspension has been fully served in accordance with this clause 15.13 and these Regulations, generally.

- 15.14 Where a Participant misses an A-Leagues Match or Matches and/or Australia Cup Match or Matches as a result of serving national team duty during the period of their suspension, that A-Leagues Match or Matches, or, if applicable, Australia Cup Match or Matches, will not be credited as a match served in their suspension.
- 15.15 Subject to clause 15.16 and 15.17 (applicable for the A-League men only), where a Player is required to serve a suspension in terms of matches for an Offence committed in a Competition other than the A-Leagues or Australia Cup, the Player is eligible to play in the A-Leagues whilst serving their suspension in the Competition in which the Offence was committed.
- 15.16 Where a Player is suspended in a Competition other than the A-League Men or Australia Cup for:
- (a) six (6) or more matches (if the sanction is given in terms of matches) or six (6) or more weeks (if the sanction is given in terms of a period of time); or
 - (b) the Offence of “use of discriminatory language and/ or gestures, including racist, religious, ethnic or sexist”; or
 - (c) the Offence of “unsporting conduct towards a Match Official”,
- the Player is ineligible to participate in the A-League Men until they have served their suspension in the Competition in which the Offence was committed.
- 15.17 Where a Player is suspended in a Competition other than the A-League Men or Australia Cup for:
- (a) six (6) or more matches (if the sanction is given in terms of matches) or six (6) or more weeks (if the sanction is given in terms of a period of time); or
 - (b) the Offence of “use of discriminatory language and/ or gestures, including racist, religious, ethnic or sexist”; or
 - (c) the Offence of “unsporting conduct towards a Match Official”,
- and the Player has not completed serving their suspension at the conclusion of the relevant Competition in which the Offence was committed, the Player must serve the remainder of their suspension in the next Australia Cup Match(es) and is not eligible to play in the A-League Men until the suspension has been served unless the Player is a party to a Standard Player Contract which commenced:
- (d) on or before the suspension is incurred; or
 - (e) after the suspension is incurred, but prior to the suspension being completed,
- in which circumstances, the suspension will be served in the next A-League Men Match(es) in which their team participates.

15.18 Suspensions carry over:

- (a) from one round to the next in the Regular Season and from the Regular Season to the Finals Series and from the Regular Season or Finals Series (as applicable) to the following Regular Season; and
- (b) from the A-League Men to the Australia Cup.

If a suspension in terms of a period of time coincides with a Non-playing Period

15.19 Where a suspension is to be imposed in terms of a period of time, and some or all of the suspension coincides with any Non-playing Period(s), then such Non-playing Period(s) shall not be counted towards the satisfaction of that suspension.

15.20 Subject to clause 15.21, a Non-playing Period in relation to a Club means any time period between that Club's final A-Leagues Match in an A-Leagues season and that Club's next A-Leagues Match in the following A-Leagues season.

15.21 Where a Participant serves a suspension in the Australia Cup during a Non-playing Period, for each Australia Cup Match that the Participant's Club plays in, the period from ten (10) days prior to that Australia Cup Match to the day of that Australia Cup Match will be counted towards satisfaction of that Participant's suspension provided that, for the avoidance of doubt:

- (a) any of those days which overlap with the A-League Men season shall not be counted towards satisfaction of that Participant's suspension; and
- (b) any of those days which overlap with another ten (10) day period in respect of another Australia Cup Match shall not be counted towards satisfaction of that Participant's suspension.

15.22 By way of illustration of clauses 15.19 and 15.20 only, if:

- (a) a Judicial Body, applying the Range at the Table of Offences determines a six (6) month suspension is warranted for a Participant and such sanction is delivered on 1 March;
- (b) that Participant's Club's final A-League Men Match in that A-League Men season is on 30 April; and
- (c) that Participant's Club's next A-League Men Match in the following A-League Men season is on 10 October,

the period between 1 May and 9 October is a Non-playing Period and accordingly, in accordance with clauses 15.19 and 15.20 the period between 1 May and 9 October shall not be counted towards the satisfaction of that Participant's suspension.

15.23 By way of illustration of clause 15.21 only, if, using the example set out in clause 15.22:

- (a) as per clause 15.22, a suspended Participant's Club's last A-League Men Match in an A-League Men season is on 30 April,

that Participant's Club plays in:

- (i) a round of 32 Australia Cup Match on 10 August;
 - (ii) a round of 16 Australia Cup Match on 15 September; and
 - (iii) a quarter final Australia Cup Match on 15 October; and
- (b) as per clause 15.22, that Participant's Club's first A-League Men Match in the following A-League Men season is on 10 October,

then:

- (c) as per clause 15.22, the period between 1 May and 9 October is a Non-playing Period and will not count towards the satisfaction of the Participant's suspension (subject to 15.23(e)); and
- (d) the periods between:
 - (i) 1 August and 10 August;
 - (ii) 6 September and 15 September; and
 - (iii) 6 October and 9 October,

will be counted towards the satisfaction of the Participant's suspension.

15.24 Where the Match Review Panel or a Judicial Body determines, in its absolute discretion, that a Participant committed two (2) or more Offences during the same Match, the Match Review Panel or Judicial Body may, in its absolute discretion, direct the Participant's suspension as a consequence of the commission of the Offences be served concurrently. In the absence of any such direction, all suspensions are to be served consecutively.

16. NON-FIXTURE MATCHES

A Participant who receives:

- (a) a Mandatory Match Suspension in a Non-Fixture Match, must serve that suspension in their Club's next Non-Fixture Match(es); or
- (b) a match suspension in addition to a Mandatory Match Suspension for an Offence that occurs in a Non-Fixture Match, may be required by a Judicial Body to serve the suspension in the next A-Leagues Match(es) or Australia Cup Match(es) in which their Club participates (rather than the next Non-Fixture Match).

17. EFFECT OF ABANDONED MATCHES

- 17.1 If a suspension is to be served in terms of matches, only those matches actually played count towards the execution of the suspension. If an A-Leagues Match or Australia Cup Match is abandoned after its commencement, cancelled or forfeited, a suspension is only considered to be served if the Club to which the suspended Player or Team Official belongs is not responsible for the facts that led to the abandonment, cancellation or forfeiture.
- 17.2 A Player Yellow Card or Team Official Yellow Card issued during an A-Leagues Match abandoned after its commencement will be annulled if that A-Leagues Match is replayed and upheld if that A-Leagues Match is not replayed.
- 17.3 A direct Player Red Card or Team Official Red Card issued during an A-Leagues Match abandoned after its commencement will be upheld, regardless of whether the A-Leagues Match is replayed or not.

PART-E - ADMINISTRATIVE AND HEARING PROCEDURES

18. DISCIPLINARY COUNSEL AND ADMINISTRATOR

- 18.1 FA will appoint a person to act as Disciplinary Counsel in hearings of a Judicial Body conducted in accordance with these Regulations.
- 18.2 The Disciplinary Counsel will be a barrister or solicitor of any state or territory of Australia.
- 18.3 The Disciplinary Counsel will:
- (a) in a Disciplinary and Ethics Committee hearing, appear at that hearing to present the evidence, examine and cross-examine witnesses and make submissions to the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee in support of the charge and as to the appropriate sanction; and
 - (b) in an Appeal Committee hearing, appear before the Appeal Committee on the hearing of the appeal and make such submissions as are, in the circumstances, appropriate, having regard to the objectives, interests and responsibilities of FA as a member of FIFA and as governing body of football in Australia.
- 18.4 In the discharge of any of the functions and responsibilities with which the Disciplinary Counsel is charged and in the exercise of any of the powers and authorities which are conferred, the Disciplinary Counsel must at all times:
- (a) act independently of a Judicial Body, impartially and fairly; and
 - (b) be aware of, and have regard to the objectives, interests and responsibilities of FA as a member of FIFA and as governing body of football in Australia.
- 18.5 FA will brief the Disciplinary Counsel with the following information:
- (a) all evidence required to support the case, including the Referee's Reports, and Match Official Reports, any report of the Match Review Panel or any other relevant report, Broadcast Footage, and any statement from witnesses;
 - (b) the Applicant's disciplinary history;
 - (c) any written submission or supporting material received by FA from the Participant;
 - (d) if applicable, any decision of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee; and
 - (e) upon request by the Disciplinary Counsel, any reasonably available additional evidence or information as may in their opinion be required to adequately present the case before the Judicial Body.

- 18.6 The discharge by the Disciplinary Counsel of any of the functions and responsibilities with which the Disciplinary Counsel is charged or the exercise by the Disciplinary Counsel of any of the powers and authorities which are conferred on the Disciplinary Counsel shall not be capable of review and, in any event, shall not be justiciable.

Administrator

- 18.7 FA will appoint an Administrator to ensure the efficient operation of these Regulations.
- 18.8 The Administrator will:
- (a) collate all submissions, documents and evidence received by FA or relevant to the review by the Match Review Panel or a hearing;
 - (b) provide copies of Disciplinary Notices, other notices and Determinations to the Participant;
 - (c) provide all evidence upon which the Disciplinary Counsel proposes to rely to the Participant in a timely manner;
 - (d) provide administrative assistance and information to the Disciplinary Counsel in accordance with clause 18.5;
 - (e) convene all hearings of a Judicial Body as soon as practicable and, if an urgent hearing is required convene an urgent hearing; for the avoidance of doubt, this includes any urgency concerning a Participant's transition from the A-Leagues to other Regulated Football at the commencement of the Non-playing Period where Participants are ineligible to play football in accordance with clause 15.9.
 - (f) be the central point of contact for the Participant and the Disciplinary Counsel and ensure that all timeframes and requirements are met; and
 - (g) perform all tasks prescribed to the Administrator and any incidental tasks necessary to ensure the smooth and efficient operation of these Regulations.

19. CONDUCT OF HEARINGS

- 19.1 In consultation with the Chair of the relevant Judicial Body panel, FA may determine the location, the seat and the method or platform to conduct the hearing, which may include physically in

FA's head office in Sydney, New South Wales, via teleconference or videoconference, a hybrid of these two, or in any other form or via any other technology or digital platform.

- 19.2 In respect of hearings, it is the responsibility of the Club and the Participant to make certain that:
- (a) the Participant and their representative have in their possession all the materials they need to conduct the hearing, including any materials provided by FA, a copy of these Regulations and a copy of the Laws of the Game;
 - (b) the Administrator has been provided with any witness statements, reports or other evidence intended to be relied upon by the Participant in accordance with clause 20.5;
 - (c) if the Participant wishes to participate by teleconference or videoconference, the Participant and their representative can both hear, and see, if applicable, and participate in the hearing on a working speaker phone, computer or mobile and communication device;
 - (d) the Participant has access to an interpreter if necessary; and
 - (e) the Participant and their representative have watched, and have the facilities to be able to watch, the Broadcast Footage of the incident during the hearing.

- 19.3 FA must provide and meet the costs of all administrative services required to enable a Judicial Body to carry out its functions, including procurement of hearing rooms, administrative support and copying of documents.

20. PROCEDURAL FAIRNESS

- 20.1 A Participant or Club has the right to a fair and expeditious hearing determined by an independent and impartial Judicial Body.
- 20.2 A member of a Judicial Body cannot hear or make any Determinations if that member has a conflict of interest, actual or perceived, including if they are a director or employee of a Club or if there is any other reason where a private or personal interest could materially influence the way the member performs their duties.
- 20.3 A member of a Judicial Body cannot be an employee or a director of the FA.
- 20.4 A member of a Judicial Body may be challenged if circumstances exist that give rise to justifiable doubts as to the member's impartiality or independence. Such a plea must be raised in

submissions before the hearing date. A Judicial Body has the power to rule on this objection and, if the challenge fails, reasons must be provided in the final Determination.

- 20.5 A Participant must provide to the Administrator a copy of any written submissions, materials, documents or other evidence he intends to rely on in the hearing by 1pm on the day of the hearing. If it fails to do so, the Participant is not, without the leave of the Judicial Body, allowed to submit them into evidence at the hearing.
- 20.6 All submissions, materials, documents or evidence supplied to a Judicial Body by the Participant or by the Disciplinary Counsel must at the same time be provided to the other person.
- 20.7 A Participant or, in the case of an appeal pursuant to clause 23.2 a Club, must provide advance notice about who will represent it at a hearing, including any legal representative and any witness whom the Participant or Club intends to present together with at least the subject matter on which the witness will testify.

21. HEARING PROCEDURE

Evidence

- 21.1 Hearings are not bound by the rules of evidence usually applicable to proceedings in courts of law, but all hearings must be conducted in accordance with the principles of natural justice, including that the Participant or, in the case of an appeal pursuant to clause 23.2, a Club:
- (a) is treated with equality;
 - (b) receives advance notice of the hearing; and
 - (c) has the opportunity to be heard and to make submissions in relation to the issues of, where applicable, merit and/or sanction.
- 21.2 The facts contained in a Referee's Report or Match Official Report are presumed to be accurate unless the contrary is established.

Directions

- 21.3 If a matter has the potential to become complex or lengthy, a Judicial Body may order a directions hearing for the purpose of setting a timetable for the submission of evidence by the Participant or the Disciplinary Counsel or in the case of an appeal pursuant to clause 23.2, a Club. If a person fails to comply with the timetable as determined by the directions hearing without showing sufficient cause, a Judicial Body may continue the proceedings and make a Determination on the evidence before it.

Determining Procedures

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- 21.4 A Judicial Body has the right to determine all procedures to be adopted at a hearing and may during the course of any hearing:
- (a) grant or order an adjournment to provide the Participant or the Disciplinary Counsel or in the case of an appeal pursuant to clause 23.2, a Club, with additional time or to consider additional evidence;
 - (b) admit or request the production of documents or any relevant written evidence available to a Participant or Club or any other person, including reports from Match Officials, declarations from the Participant or the Disciplinary Counsel or in the case of an appeal pursuant to clause 23.2, a Club, and witnesses, expert opinion and video or audio recordings; or
 - (c) order the attendance of any person for the purpose of asking questions relevant to the hearing.
- 21.5 Where a Judicial Body grants an adjournment, the Participant is ineligible to participate in any A-Leagues matches as either a Player or Team Official, whichever is relevant, until the Judicial Body has reached a Determination in the matter. Any matches missed by the Participant as a consequence will be incorporated into any sanction imposed by the final Determination of the matter.

Media

- 21.6 Subject to such directions as, in the opinion of the Chair (as applicable), are necessary for the orderly conduct of the proceedings or for other good reason, the hearings of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee and Appeal Committee, but not the deliberations, will be open to the Media but not to members of the public for the purpose of observing and reporting on the hearing. Members of the Media may not make audio or visual recordings.

22. DETERMINATIONS AND DELIBERATIONS

Deliberations

- 22.1 If a Participant fails to attend a hearing without showing sufficient cause for such failure, the hearing can be heard and determined in the Participant's absence, including as to Determination on the merits and/or sanction.
- 22.2 A Judicial Body must determine all hearings by reference to:
- (a) these Regulations, FA Statutes, FIFA Statutes and other relevant rules and regulations;
 - (b) considerations of general justice and fairness; and
 - (c) applicable law as specified in clause 25.

Determinations

22.3 A Determination must:

- (a) contain the names of the members of the Judicial Body;
- (b) be made in writing;
- (c) in the shortest form reasonably practicable, provide the reasons on which the Determination is based;
- (d) contain the terms of the decision;
- (e) in the case of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee, be signed by the Chair;
- (f) in the case of the Appeal Committee, be signed by the Chair;
- (g) contain the date on which, and the place where, the Determination was made; and
- (h) be promptly provided to the Administrator so that it may be forwarded to the Participant.

22.4 A Judicial Body may verbally announce the Determination at the end of the hearing, but must, except as provided in clause 11.44(d), provide written reasons for the Determination in accordance with the above.

22.5 All Determinations of a Disciplinary and Ethics Committee remain in force unless reversed by the Appeal Committee.

22.6 Subject only to the right of appeal to the Appeal Committee in accordance with clause 23, a Determination of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee is final and binding and no person may institute or maintain proceedings in any court of law or tribunal.

Compliance with Determinations

22.7 A failure to comply with a Determination within the manner or time as prescribed by that Determination is itself a breach of the FA Statutes and the non-compliant person is subject to further sanction.

Correction of a Determination

22.8 Within 30 days of receipt of a Determination, FA itself or a Club or Participant with written notice to FA, may request the Judicial Body to correct in the Determination any errors in computation,

any clerical or typographical errors or any other error of a similar nature. If the Judicial Body considers the request to be justified, it will make the correction.

22.9 Within 30 days after communication of the Determination, a Judicial Body may of its own initiative correct in the Determination any errors in computation, any clerical or typographical errors or any other error of a similar nature.

22.10 Any corrections must be in writing and communicated to the Administrator.

PART F - APPEALS

23. APPEALS

- 23.1 A Participant has a right to appeal any Determination of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.
- 23.2 A Club has a right to appeal a sanction imposed by FA for Team Misconduct.
- 23.3 To initiate an appeal, a Participant or Club must:
- (a) notify FA of its intention to do so within seven (7) days of the date on which the written Determination or notice from FA was received, using Prescribed Form DR02; and
 - (b) pay to FA an appeal fee of \$2,500.
- 23.4 A hearing will not be convened unless and until the applicable fees have been received by FA.
- 23.5 The grounds of appeal are those specified in clause 23.1 of the Judicial Bodies By-Law and are:
- (a) the Participant or, in respect of an appeal under clause 23.2, the Club, was not afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard on the issues;
 - (b) the Determination was affected by bias; and
 - (c) the decision was one that was not reasonably open to the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee or, in respect of an appeal under clause 23.2, to FA, having regard to the evidence before the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee or FA (whichever applies).
- 23.6 The Appeal Committee has the power to:
- (a) dismiss, allow in whole or part, or vary (whether by way of reduction or increase) any Determination of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee or decision of FA;
 - (b) substitute its own sanctions or finding; or
 - (c) impose any sanction or make any finding that the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee or FA could have imposed or made,
- in accordance with these Regulations.

- 23.7 If the appellant is completely successful in its appeal, the FA must refund to the appellant the appeal fee.

24. NO RECOURSE TO COURTS

- 24.1 The Determination of the Appeal Committee will be final and binding on the parties to the appeal and no person may institute or maintain proceedings in any court of law or tribunal.
- 24.2 Without limiting the generality of clause 24.1 and 23.6 and for further assurance notwithstanding that such provisions have no applicability, there will be no right of appeal under sections 34 (Application for setting aside as exclusive recourse against arbitral award) or 34A (Appeals against awards), and no right to apply for the determination of a question of law under section 27J (Determination of preliminary point of law by the Court), of the Commercial Arbitration Act 2010 (NSW) or equivalent or similar legislation in any of the Australian states or territories or Commonwealth.

PART G - MISCELLANEOUS

25. APPLICABLE LAW

A Judicial Body must apply the law as applicable in New South Wales.

26. IMMUNITY

Members of Judicial Bodies, Disciplinary Counsel, the Match Review Panel and FA including the Administrator (***Immune Persons***) shall be immune from suit and no person may institute or maintain any proceedings or bring any claim in respect of any act or omission on the part of an Immune Person or any decisions made by an Immune Person except in the event of fraud.

27. SUBSTANTIAL COMPLIANCE

None of the below will be invalidated for any defect whether of substance or of form or by reason of non-compliance with any term of these Regulations:

- (a) any Referee's Report, Match Official Report, Match Commissioner Report, Incident Report or reports from an Investigations Officer or the Match Review Panel;
- (b) any proceedings before a Judicial Body;
- (c) any Determination of a Judicial Body;
- (d) any proceedings before the Match Review Panel;
- (e) any determination made by the Match Review Panel in respect of an Obvious Error (Red Card) Application or Obvious Error (Yellow Card Simulation) Application; or
- (f) any notice issued by FA or by or on behalf of the Match Review Panel, including a Disciplinary Notice and/or a Show Cause Notice.

28. NOTICE

A notice will be taken to have been received:

- (a) if delivered by hand to the recipient's address, on the date of delivery, as long as delivery is acknowledged in writing by the recipient;
- (b) if sent by post, three (3) days after the posting; and
- (c) if sent by email or facsimile on a working day at the recipient's, on the date of transmission, or if sent on a non-working day at the recipient's, on the next working day

(in both cases as long as the sender's email or facsimile machine records a successful transmission).

PART H - MISCELLANEOUS

29. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS

29.1 In these Regulations:

A-League Men means the senior men's national competition staged in Australia and New Zealand by APL, known as the A-League Men competition and includes the Regular Season and Finals Series.

A-League Men Match means a match in the A-League Men.

A-League Women means the senior women's national competition staged in Australia and New Zealand by APL, known as the A-League Women competition and includes the Regular Season and Finals Series.

A-League Women Match means a match in the A-League Women.

A-League Youth means the national men's youth club football competition conducted by APL.

A-League Youth Match means a match in the A-League Youth.

A-Leagues means the A-League Men and/or A-League Women (as applicable).

A-Leagues Match means an A-League Men Match or A-League Women Match (as applicable).

Administrator means the FA employee appointed to discharge the duties contained within these Regulations, including those at clause 18.8.

AFC or Asian Football Confederation means the governing body of Asian football of which FA is a member association.

AFC Match means any club football match conducted under the auspices of the AFC, including the AFC Champions League and the AFC Cup.

APL means Australian Professional Leagues Company Pty Ltd (ACN 646 799 199).

Amateur means any player who is not a Professional, as defined in article 4.1(c) of the FA National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations.

Appeal Committee means the committee so named and established in accordance with the Judicial Bodies By-Law and convened by FA from time to time in accordance with clause 4.9 to clause 4.11 and the FA Statutes.

Australia Cup means the national club competition staged by, or under the control of, FA between A-League Men, National Premier Leagues, state league and grassroots clubs, currently known as the Australia Cup (or as otherwise notified by FA).

Australia Cup Match means any football match in the Australia Cup in which a Club participates.

Broadcast Footage means the visual footage of an A-Leagues Match provided to FA captured by the Broadcast Partner (or its agent) and does not include any computer-generated visual recreation of the footage.

Broadcast Partner means the organisation(s) that produces the live coverage of A-Leagues Matches.

Category 1 Offence and **Category 2 Offence** respectively means an Offence as so categorised in the Players Table of Offences or Team Officials Table of Offences, as applicable.

Chair has the meaning given to it in the Judicial Bodies By-Law.

Citation Incidents has the meaning given in clause 11.1(c).

Club means the entity admitted to field a team in the A-League Men or A-League Women (as appropriate).

Club Doctor means the person employed, engaged or appointed by the Club charged with the primary responsibility for providing medical services to the Club's Players during an A-Leagues Match.

Club Physiotherapist means the person employed, engaged or appointed by the Club charged with the primary responsibility for the Club's Player injury management and prevention.

Code of Conduct and Ethics means the National Code of Conduct and Ethics as promulgated by FA from time to time.

Competition means:

- (a) any league, competition or tournament administered, controlled or sanctioned by FA in accordance with the National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations or one of the Member Federations, including the pre-season, season proper, finals series and any post season tournament or knockout cup competition of that Competition; or
- (b) the New Zealand National League.

Determination means a determination or decision made by the Judicial Bodies.

Disciplinary and Ethics Committee means the committee so named and established in accordance with the Judicial Bodies By-Law and convened by FA from time to time in accordance with clauses 4.6 to 4.8.

Disciplinary Counsel means the person appointed by FA in accordance with clause 18.

Disciplinary Notice means the notice provided to the Participant under clause 11.

Exceptional Circumstances means circumstances operating at the time of the Offence and relating to the commission of the Offence and not to the impact a sanction may have. The following are not Exceptional Circumstances:

- (a) the significance or importance to the Participant or their Club of the A-Leagues Match in which the Offence was committed;
- (b) the significance or importance of any match or tournament in which the Participant will be ineligible to participate because of the imposition of a sanction within the Range at the Table of Offences;
- (c) the point in the A-Leagues Match at which the Offence was committed;
- (d) the conduct, including actions, words or gestures of any Player or Team Official of the opposing team during or related to the A-Leagues Match unless it is conduct that is extraordinary or unprecedented in football; and
- (e) any disciplinary decision taken or failure to take a disciplinary decision by a Match Official during the A-Leagues Match.

FA Statutes means FA's statutes as promulgated by FA from time to time, including its constitution and by-laws and rules and regulations and policies and procedures.

FIFA or Fédération Internationale de Football Association means the international governing body of football of which FA is a member association.

FIFA Club World Cup means any club world cup football match conducted under the auspices of FIFA, and is currently known as the FIFA Club World Cup.

FIFA Statutes means the statutes and accompanying standing orders and regulations promulgated by FIFA from time to time, including the FIFA Disciplinary Code, the FIFA Code of Ethics and the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players.

Finals Series means the elimination finals, semi-finals, preliminary final and grand final of the A-League Men or A-League Women (as applicable).

Football Australia or FA means Football Australia Limited.

Investigations Officer means the person appointed by FA from time to time in accordance with clause 11.55.

Judicial Bodies By-Law means FA's Judicial Bodies By-Law as promulgated by FA from time to time.

Judicial Body means the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee and/or the Appeal Committee.

Laws of the Game means the official Laws of the Game as promulgated by FIFA from time to time.

Mandatory Match Suspension means the automatic suspension from participating in an A-Leagues Match (or A-Leagues Matches) and/or in the case of the A-League Men, Australia Cup Match (or Australia Cup Matches) that must be served:

- (a) subject to the outcome of any Obvious Error (Red Card) Application by a Player for the commission of a Player Red Card Offence;
- (b) subject to the outcome of any Obvious Error (Yellow Card Simulation) Application by a Player for accumulation of Player Yellow Cards in accordance with clause 5;
- (c) by a Player for accumulation of Player Red Cards in accordance with clause 6;
- (d) subject to the outcome of any Obvious Error (Red Card) Application by a Team Official for the commission of a Team Official Red Card Offence;
- (e) by a Team Official for accumulation of Team Official Yellow Cards in accordance with clause 7;
- (f) by a Team Official for accumulation of Team Official Red Cards in accordance with clause 8;
- (g) by a Participant for accumulation of Yellow Cards in accordance with clause 9.1; and
- (h) by a Participant for accumulation of Red Cards in accordance with clause 9.2.

Match Official means the Referee, the assistant referees, video assistant referee, assistant video assistant referee, fourth official, match commissioner, Referee inspector appointed by FA to assume responsibility in connection with and officiating on an A-Leagues Match.

Match Official Report means a written document provided to FA, the Match Review Panel or Judicial Bodies by a Match Official in accordance with clause 2.4.

Match Review Panel means the panel so named and convened by FA from time to time in accordance with clause 4.2.

Match Review Panel Roster means the roster of members of the Match Review Panel appointed in accordance with clause 4.1.

Media means media professional presently accredited by FA.

Member Federation means a State, Territory or regional federation or association that is a member of FA from time to time.

Member Protection Policy means the National Member Protection Policy as promulgated by FA from time to time.

Minimum Sanction has the meaning given at paragraph 5 of Schedule 3.

Mobile and Communication Devices Policy means the FA Mobile and Communication Devices Policy promulgated by FA from time to time.

National Premier League means those Competitions designated by FA as National Premier Leagues, including state league competitions administered by a Member Federation.

New Zealand National League means the senior men's national competition staged in New Zealand by New Zealand Football, known as the New Zealand National League or such other name as notified by New Zealand Football from time to time.

Non-Fixture Match means any match participated in by the Club with FA's prior written approval that is not a match in the Regular Season, Finals Series, Australia Cup, A-League Youth, National Premier Leagues, New Zealand National League, FIFA Club World Cup or an AFC Match.

Non-playing Period has the meaning given in clause 15.20.

Obvious Error means a decision by the Referee to:

- (a) issue a Player Yellow Card when a Player Red Card was warranted;
- (b) not issue any card when a Player Red Card was warranted;
- (c) issue a Player Red Card when no Player Red Card was warranted;
- (d) issue a Player Red Card when a Player Yellow Card was warranted;
- (e) issue a Team Official Yellow Card when a Team Official Red Card was warranted;
- (f) not issue any card when a Team Official Red Card was warranted;
- (g) issue a Team Official Red Card when no Team Official Red Card was warranted;
- (h) issue a Team Official Red Card when a Team Official Yellow Card was warranted;
- (i) issue a Player Yellow Card to a Player directly as a result of a Participant engaging in an act of Simulation;
- (j) not issue a Player Yellow Card for Simulation when a Player Yellow Card was warranted; and
- (k) issue a Player Red Card for Offence No.1 in the Players Table of Offences where there was no obvious goal scoring opportunity,

that the Match Review Panel or Disciplinary and Ethics Committee (as the case requires), taking the place of the Referee, in possession of all the facts, including all the Broadcast Footage, decided that the Referee has made a clear and obvious error, which should not have been made. In doing so, the Match Review Panel or Disciplinary and Ethics Committee (as the case requires) must consult with FA's Head of Referees to seek advice on the interpretations of the Laws of the Game.

Obvious Error (Red Card) Application means an application made in accordance with clause 11.5.

Obvious Error (Yellow Card Simulation) Application means an application made in accordance with clause 11.13.

Offence means a Player Red Card Offence or a Team Official Red Card Offence.

Participant means a Player or a Team Official.

Player means any person who has been, is, or is eligible to be registered by FA and APL with a Club to play in the A-League Men or A-League Women, as applicable.

Player Red Card has the meaning given to it at clause 6.2.

Player Red Card Offence means commission by a Player of one or more of the sending-off offences outlined at clause 6.2.

Player Yellow Card means a caution of a Player by the Referee for an infringement outlined at clause 5.1.

Players Table of Offences means the various offences that can be committed by a Player contained in paragraph 6 of Schedule 3.

Professional means a Player employed by a Club to play football in the A-Leagues under the Standard Player Contract prescribed by APL.

Range at the Table of Offences means, in relation to each Offence, the range bounded by the Minimum Sanction prescribed in Players Table of Offences or the Team Officials Table of Offences (as applicable) and the maximum prescribed at Schedule 3.

Red Card means a Player Red Card or Team Official Red Card, as the case may be.

Referee means the appropriately qualified person engaged by FA to enforce the Laws of the Game during an A-Leagues Match.

Referee's Report means the report provided to FA in a prescribed form by a Referee after an A-Leagues Match.

Regular Season means the matches played between the Clubs during the A-League Men season, A-League Women season, or A-League Youth season (as applicable) to determine the Clubs that compete in the Finals Series, and includes all matches played in the A-League Men season, A-League Women season, or A-League Youth season (as applicable) that are not in the Finals Series.

Regulated Football Match means any eleven-a-side football match in a competition conducted under, and involving players who register with FA under, the regulatory framework of FA's National Registration Status and Transfer Regulations.

Regulations means these A-Leagues Disciplinary Regulations.

Show Cause Notice means a notice issued under clause 11.

Simulation means an act or attempt by a Participant to deceive the Referee by feigning injury or pretending to have been fouled.

Standard Player Contract means the form of:

- (a) contract for the employment of a Professional; or
 - (b) agreement for the engagement of an Amateur,
- in the A-Leagues.

Table of Offences means the various offences that can be committed by a Participant contained in the Players Table of Offences or Team Officials Table of Offences at Schedule 3.

Team Misconduct has the meaning given to it clause 10.2.

Team Official means any person involved with the management, preparation or participation of a Club's team (whether paid or unpaid), including the coaches, managers, medical staff, physiotherapists, gear persons and other support staff or any other person accredited by FA as an employee, contractor or volunteer at a Club.

Team Official Red Card has the meaning given to it at clause 8.2.

Team Official Red Card Offence means commission by a Team Official of one or more of the dismissal offences outlined at clause 8.2.

Team Official Yellow Card means a caution of a Team Official by the Referee for an infringement outlined at clause 7.1.

Team Officials Table of Offences means the various offences that can be committed by a Team Official contained in paragraph 7 of Schedule 3.

Technical Area means the area marked and designated by FA in accordance with the Laws of the Game within which the coach, the substitute Players and the Team Officials must remain during an A-Leagues Match.

Total Payments means the gross salary (including superannuation but not match bonuses) a Player is entitled to receive under their employment contract with the Club for the period corresponding to the period when he is subject to suspension.

VAR means the video assistant referee.

Venue means the venue or stadium at which the A-Leagues Match is being conducted.

Yellow Card means a Player Yellow Card or Team Official Yellow Card, as the case may be.

29.2 In these Regulations

- (a) any terms used but not defined has the meaning given to it in the FA Statutes;

- (b) any use of the word 'includes' or words such as 'for example' or 'such as' do not limit anything else that is included in general speech;
- (c) 'business day' means a day when the offices of FA are open for business;
- (d) all notices must be in writing and addressed to the address of the recipient;
- (e) any reference to '\$' or 'dollars' is to Australian dollars; and
- (f) the singular includes the plural and conversely.

29.3 FA:

- (a) will interpret all terms of these Regulations and any such interpretation will be final and binding on every person;
- (b) will review these Regulations regularly to ensure they continue to meet their stated objectives; and
- (c) may vary these Regulations from time to time.

30. Enforcement

These Regulations were approved by FA on 16 September 2025 and come into force on 16 September 2025.

SCHEDULE 1. A-LEAGUE WOMEN

1 PLAYER YELLOW CARDS

Further to clause 5.2, but subject to clause 9.1, a Player who accumulates the following number of Player Yellow Cards during the course of the:

- (a) Regular Season, must serve the following Mandatory Match Suspensions:
 - (i) for the period commencing from the Player's Club's first A-League Women Match to the Player's Club's 17th A-League Women Match of the Regular Season, five (5) Player Yellow Cards equates to a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) match suspension; and
 - (ii) irrespective of whether a Player has received a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) match suspension under item 1(a)(i) of this Schedule, eight (8) Player Yellow Cards during the Regular Season equates to a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) A-League Women Match suspension. For every three (3) Player Yellow Cards thereafter, a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) A-League Women Match; and
- (b) Finals Series, four (4) Player Yellow Cards must serve a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) A-League Women Match suspension.

2 TEAM OFFICIAL YELLOW CARDS

Further to clause 7.2 but subject to clause 9.1, a Team Official who accumulates the following number of Team Official Yellow Cards during the course of the:

- (a) Regular Season, must serve the following Mandatory Match Suspensions:
 - (i) for the period commencing from the Team Official's Club's first A-League Women Match to the Team Official's Club's 17th A-League Women Match of the Regular Season, five (5) Player Yellow Cards equates to a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) match suspension; and
 - (ii) irrespective of whether a Team Official has received a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) match suspension under item 2(a)(i) above in this Schedule, eight (8) Team Official Yellow Cards during the Regular Season equates to a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) A-League Women Match suspension. For every three (3) Team Official Yellow Cards thereafter, a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) A-League Women Match; and

- (b) Finals Series, four (4) Team Official Yellow Cards must serve a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) A-League Women Match suspension.

3 PARTICIPANTS REGISTERED AS BOTH A PLAYER AND TEAM OFFICIAL YELLOW CARDS

A Participant who is registered as both a Player and Team Official in the A-League Women and who accumulates the following number of Yellow Cards during the course of the:

- (a) Regular Season, must serve the following Mandatory Match Suspensions:
 - (i) for the period commencing from the Participant's Club's first A-League Women Match to the Participant's Club's 17th A-League Women Match of the Regular Season, five (5) Yellow Cards equates to a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) match suspension; and
 - (ii) irrespective of whether a Participant's has received a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) match suspension under item 3(a)(i) above, eight (8) Yellow Cards during the Regular Season equates to a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) A-League Women Match suspension. For every three (3) Yellow Cards thereafter, a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) A-League Women Match; and
- (b) Finals Series, four (4) Yellow Cards must serve a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) A-League Women Match suspension.

SCHEDULE 2. A-LEAGUE MEN

1 PLAYER YELLOW CARDS

Further to clause 5.2 but subject to clause 9.1, a Player who accumulates the following number of Player Yellow Cards during the course of the:

- (a) Regular Season, must serve the following Mandatory Match Suspensions:
 - (i) for the period commencing from the Player's Club's first A-League Men Match to the Player's Club's 20th A-League Men Match of the Regular Season, five (5) Player Yellow Cards equates to a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) match suspension; and
 - (ii) irrespective of whether a Player has received a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) match suspension under item 1(a)(i) above, eight (8) Player Yellow Cards during the Regular Season equates to a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) A-League Men Match suspension. For every three (3) Player Yellow Cards thereafter, a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) A-League Men Match; and
- (b) Finals Series, four (4) Player Yellow Cards must serve a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) A-League Men Match suspension.

2 TEAM OFFICIAL YELLOW CARDS

Further to clause 7.2 but subject to clause 9.1, a Team Official who accumulates the following number of Team Official Yellow Cards during the course of the:

- (a) Regular Season, must serve the following Mandatory Match Suspensions:
 - (i) for the period commencing from the Team Official's Club's first A-League Men Match to the Team Official's Club's 20th A-League Men Match of the Regular Season, five (5) Team Official Yellow Cards equates to a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) match suspension; and
 - (ii) irrespective of whether a Team Official has received a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) match suspension under item 2(a)(i) above, eight (8) Team Official Yellow Cards during the Regular Season equates to a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) A-League Men Match suspension. For every three (3) Team Official Yellow Cards thereafter, a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) A-League Men Match; and

-
- (b) Finals Series, four (4) Team Official Yellow Cards must serve a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) A-League Men Match suspension.

3 PARTICIPANTS REGISTERED AS BOTH A PLAYER AND TEAM OFFICIAL YELLOW CARDS

A Participant who is registered as both a Player and Team Official in the A-League Men and who accumulates the following number of Yellow Cards during the course of the:

- (a) Regular Season, must serve the following Mandatory Match Suspensions:
- (i) for the period commencing from the Participant's Club's first A-League Men Match to the Participant's Club's 20th A-League Men Match of the Regular Season, five (5) Yellow Cards equates to a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) match suspension; and
 - (ii) irrespective of whether a Participant's has received a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) match suspension under item 3(a)(i) above, eight (8) Yellow Cards during the Regular Season equates to a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) A-League Men Match suspension. For every three (3) Yellow Cards thereafter, a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) A-League Men Match.
- (b) Finals Series, four (4) Yellow Cards must serve a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) A-League Men Match suspension.

SCHEDULE 3. TABLE OF OFFENCES

1. Other than as provided in clause 11.51 of these Regulations, this Schedule 3 specifies the Offences sanctionable in accordance with these Regulations and the Range of sanctions that applies to each of these Offences. In respect of the Players Table of Offences, the Table in Column 1 also references the relevant sending-off offences R1 to R7 under the Laws of the Game. In respect of the Team Officials Table of Offences, the Table in Column 1 also references the relevant dismissal offences R-TO1 to R-TO12 under the Laws of the Game.
2. Subject to these Regulations and in particular clause 13.3 (**Exceptional Circumstances**) a Participant who has committed an Offence must receive a sanction within the Range at the applicable Table of Offences.
3. The range for each Offence is bounded at one end by the minimum sanction set out in the Players Table of Offences and Team Officials Table of Offences that must be applied and at the other end by the maximum sanction that may be applied.
4. The maximum sanction that may be applied for each Offence is suspension for a period of 24 months, except for Offence No. 11 in the Players Table of Offences and Offence No. 13 in the Team Officials Table of Offences (**Assault of a match official**) where the maximum sanction is suspension for life.
5. A Participant who commits an Offence is subject to the Minimum Sanction set out in the applicable Table of Offences in relation to each Offence. The Minimum Sanction is a combination of the Mandatory Match(es) Suspension applicable in accordance with clause 6.5 of these Regulations and in some cases, an additional match suspension. For example, where a Player receives their third direct Red Card in the Regular Season:
 - (a) for committing Offence No. 2, they must receive at least the applicable Mandatory Match Suspension of two (2) matches and any additional match suspension appropriate in the circumstances up to a total sanction of 24 months; or
 - (b) for committing Offence No. 4, they must receive at least the applicable Mandatory Match Suspension of two (2) matches plus the additional match suspension (which must be a minimum of one (1) additional match) appropriate in the circumstances up to a total sanction of 24 months.

6. PLAYERS TABLE OF OFFENCES

Offence No.	Offence	Minimum Sanction	Category
1 (R4 or R5 for Players)	Denying the opposing team an obvious goal-scoring opportunity, as prescribed in Law 12 of the Laws of the Game	The Mandatory Match Suspension	N/A
2 (R6 for Players)	Use of offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures	The Mandatory Match Suspension	Category 1
3 (R1 for Players)	Serious foul play (e.g. when challenging for the ball)	The Mandatory Match Suspension	Category 1
4 (R2 for Players)	Assault on a Player (e.g. violent conduct when not challenging for the ball) or against any other person other than a Match Official, including an attempted Assault	1 additional match plus the Mandatory Match Suspension	Category 1
5 (R 2 or R6 or R8 for Players)	Serious unsporting conduct	The Mandatory Match Suspension	Category 1
6 (R6 for Players)	Use of discriminatory language and/or gestures, including racist, religious, ethnic or sexist	4 additional matches plus the Mandatory Match Suspension	Category 2

7 (R3 for Players)	Biting or spitting at a Player, Team Official or any other person other than a Match Official	5 additional matches plus the Mandatory Match Suspension	Category 2
8 (R2 or R6 for Players)	Inciting a brawl	5 additional matches plus the Mandatory Match Suspension	Category 2
Specific Offences Against a Match Official			
9 (R6 for Players)	Use of offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures against a Match Official	The Mandatory Match Suspension	Category 1
10 (R2 or R6 or R8 for Players)	Unsporting conduct toward a Match Official	3 additional matches plus the Mandatory Match Suspension	Category 2
11 (R2 for Players)	Assault of a Match Official	6 months including the Mandatory Match Suspension	Category 2
12 (R3 for Players)	Biting or spitting at a Match Official	12 months including the Mandatory Match Suspension	Category 2

7. TEAM OFFICIALS TABLE OF OFFENCES

Offence No.	Offence	Minimum Sanction	Category
1 (R-TO5 for Team Officials)	Entering the field of play to interfere with play or an opposing Player	The Mandatory Match Suspension	Category 1
2 (R-TO6, R-TO7, or R-TO11 for Team Officials)	Deliberately leaving the Technical Area to act in a provocative or inflammatory manner, or enter the opposing Technical Area in an aggressive or confrontational manner, or to enter the video operation room	The Mandatory Match Suspension	Category 1
3 (R-TO3 for Team Officials)	Use of offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures	The Mandatory Match Suspension	Category 1
4 (R-TO1 or R-TO2 for Team Officials)	Assault on a Player, Team Official, spectator or any other person other than a Match Official (including physical or aggressive behaviour to such individuals)	1 additional match plus the Mandatory Match Suspension	Category 1
5 (R-TO8 for Team Officials)	Deliberately throwing/ kicking an object onto the field of play	The Mandatory Match Suspension	Category 1
6 (R-TO12 for Team Officials)	Using unauthorised electronic or communication equipment and/or behaving in an inappropriate manner as	The Mandatory Match Suspension	Category 1

	the result of using electronic or communication equipment		
7 (R-TO9 for Team Officials)	Delaying the restart of play by the opposing team (e.g. holding onto the ball, kicking the ball away, obstructing the movement of a Player)	The Mandatory Match Suspension	Category 1
8 (R-TO3 for Team Officials)	Use of discriminatory language and/or gestures, including racist, religious, ethnic or sexist	4 additional matches plus the Mandatory Match Suspension	Category 2
9 (R-TO4 for Team Officials)	Biting or spitting at a Player, Team Official or any other person other than a Match Official	5 additional matches plus the Mandatory Match Suspension	Category 2
Specific Offences Against a Match Official			
10 (R-TO3 for Team Officials)	Use of offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures against a Match Official	The Mandatory Match Suspension	Category 1
11 (R-TO5 or R-TO6 for Team Officials)	Deliberately leaving the Technical Area or entering the field of play to interfere with or confront a Match Official (including to show dissent towards or remonstrate with a Match Official)	The Mandatory Match Suspension	Category 1
12 (R-TO1, R-TO2 or R-TO3 for Team Officials)	Unsporting conduct toward a Match Official	3 additional matches plus the Mandatory Match Suspension	Category 2
13	Assault of a Match Official	6 months including the	Category 2

(R-TO1 or R-TO2 for Team Officials)		Mandatory Match Suspension	
14 (R-TO4 for Team Officials)	Biting or spitting at a Match Official	12 months including the Mandatory Match Suspension	Category 2

OBVIOUS ERROR (RED CARD / YELLOW CARD SIMULATION) APPLICATION

Prescribed Form DR01

Club Name:

Participant Name:

The Participant advises that, in accordance with clauses 11.5 and 11.13 of the A-Leagues Disciplinary Regulations (**Regulations**), they believe that the Referee has made an Obvious Error in:

- (a) issuing the Player with a direct Player Red Card;
- (b) issuing the Team Official with a direct Team Official Red Card; or
- (c) issuing the Player with a Player Yellow Card due to a Participant being guilty of Simulation (whichever is applicable).

On that basis, the Player Red Card or Team Official Red Card should be expunged and they should not be obligated to serve the applicable Mandatory Match Suspension or the Player Yellow Card should be expunged from the Player's disciplinary record (as applicable).

The details of the direct Player Red Card, direct Team Official Red Card or Player Yellow Card are as follows:

Match:

Date:

Time of Offence (minute of A-Leagues Match):

Submissions of the Player (please specify how these are to be submitted or if submission is attached):

☐

The information provided in this Form is current, true and correct and a payment of \$500 has been made to FA (evidence of which has been provided to FA or is attached to this Form).

Payment of Fee:

Use the FA Bank Account Details listed below. All payments must be accompanied by the following description "Appeal Fee – Obvious Error – [club name]"

Account Type: Business Transaction Account

BSB: 620-000

Account Number: 2031 5831

BIC/SWIFT Code: CTBAAU2S

Account Title: FOOTBALL AUSTRALIA LIMITED -MAIN ACCOUNT

The Application will be considered by the Match Review Panel in accordance with clauses 11.7 to 11.12 or 11.15 to 11.19 of the Regulations.

Signed:

Date:

Club CEO or Participant (circle party who signed)

THIS APPLICATION MUST BE PROVIDED TO FA BY 11.00 AM (SYDNEY TIME) THE FIRST BUSINESS DAY FOLLOWING THE MATCH TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE MATCH REVIEW PANEL. ANY APPLICATION RECEIVED AFTER THAT TIME WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

APPEAL

Prescribed Form DR02

This appeal relates to (tick appropriate box):

☐

An appeal from a Determination of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee; OR

☐

An appeal against a sanction imposed by Football Australia against a Club for Team Misconduct.

Club Name:

.....

Participant Name:(if applicable)

.....

In accordance with clause 23 of the A-Leagues Disciplinary Regulations (**Regulations**), a Participant (in the case of a Determination of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee) or a Club (in the case of an appeal against a sanction imposed by Football Australia for Team Misconduct) may appeal to the Appeal Committee.

The details of the decision that is the subject of the appeal are as follows:

1. **The decision was issued by:** FA or Disciplinary and Ethics Committee
(circle the answer)

2. **On what date was the decision communicated to you in writing:**

3. **On what ground/s are you appealing the above decision:**

☐

The Participant or Club (as applicable) was not afforded an opportunity to be heard.

☐

The decision of the FA or Disciplinary and Ethics Committee (where applicable) was affected by bias.

☐

The decision was one that was not reasonably open to FA or the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee having regard to the evidence before it.

4. **Costs**

☐

I attach confirmation of payment to FA of \$2,500 in consideration of the appeal fee

IN LODGING THIS APPLICATION, YOU ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE PARTICIPANT MAY RECEIVE A GREATER SANCTION THAN THAT WHICH YOU ARE APPEALING

Upon receipt of this Prescribed Form DR02, FA will convene a hearing of the Appeal Committee in accordance with the Regulations. Please ensure that any written submissions or other documentation in support of your application is provided to the FA Administrator by 1.00pm (AEST) on the day of the Appeal hearing or unless otherwise directed by the Appeal Committee. If same is not provided, time being of the essence, it cannot be submitted without leave of the Appeal Committee