



CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS EVENTS NETWORK SPORTS EVENTS AND SPORTS DISPUTES POLICY

DATE OF POLICY IMPLEMENTATION: MAY 2020

DATE OF NEXT MAJOR REVIEW: MAY 2022

APPROVAL AUTHORITY: CSEN COMMITTEE

GOVERNING AUTHORITY: CSEN BOARD

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: CSEN EXECUTIVE OFFICER

BACKGROUND

It has been recognised that whilst the CSEN Code of Conduct sets out the required code of conduct for our sporting competitions, there still needed to be a policy developed for how to handle breaches of this Code of Conduct in terms of disciplinary matters. It was also felt that a mechanism for handling disputes should also be formalised.

These guidelines aim to have any disputes settled at the point of the game if possible. A process for appeals has been set up if needed.

These guidelines also recognise that disciplinary matters are primarily the responsibility of the student's principal. Nevertheless, an offending student will also have to meet the penalties imposed by the association for misconduct.

The disciplinary process has been streamlined by instituting a yellow/red card system for all sports. Each sport will then draw up the specific guidelines for what constitutes a yellow or red card offence.

GUIDELINE # 1:

That in dealing with disputes from events in which CSEN are organising and member schools are competing, the following list of levels are identified as terms of reference for the management of dispute processes.

LEVELS OF HOW DISPUTES ARE TO BE HANDLED FOR REGULAR COMPETITION EVENTS

(Interschool Sport, Rally Days, Lightning Premierships etc.)

| | |
|---------|--|
| Level 1 | Referee/Umpire |
| Level 2 | Teachers in Charge of the sporting activity from both schools. |
| Level 3 | The Sports Coordinators of the relevant schools. |
| Level 4 | Principals from the relevant schools. |

(No complaint is to be sent to the CSEN Board without it first being discussed by the Sports Coordinators and Principals of the relevant schools.)

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|---------|---|
| Level 5 | CSEN Board and if required the appeals process. |
| Level 6 | CSEN Board (for review of Board processes only) |

(CSEN Executive Officer cannot overrule CSEN Board decision on an issue but can inform and discuss with the Board any changes of approach for future events.)



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LEVELS OF HOW DISPUTES ARE TO BE HANDLED AT MAJOR CARNIVALS

(Athletics, Swimming, Cross Country etc.)

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|---------|---|
| Level 1 | Referee/Umpire |
| Level 2 | Sports Coordinators of the sporting activity from both schools. |
| Level 3 | A Disputes Committee will be established. |

After the event:

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Level 4 | CSEN Board in conjunction with members of the Disputes Committee on the day. |
| Level 5 | CSEN Executive Officer (for review of Board processes only) |

(CSEN Executive Officer cannot overrule CSEN Board decision on an issue but can inform and discuss with the Board any changes of approach for future events.)

GUIDELINE # 2:

That in respect of each competition organised, the Convener of the competition establish a Disputes Committee to hear any disputes that might arise in the course of the Major Carnival. Further, the Disputes Committee be established along the following lines.

DISPUTES COMMITTEE

A Committee of 3 people is to be selected at the start of each carnival.
The Disputes Committee Members should not be a member of staff of a school that is party to a dispute.
The Disputes Committee can call in members of the CSEN Board if considered necessary.

GUIDELINE # 3:

That the following Sports Disputes Policy be adopted and applied throughout all events in which CSEN organises and member schools participate. That all officials be made aware of the CSEN Code of Conduct, the Sports Disputes Policy and their responsibility to enforce them.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

Disciplinary matters are primarily the responsibility of the Principals of the schools which offending students attend. Nonetheless an offending student will also have to serve the penalties imposed by CSEN.

A system using Yellow and Red cards is to be used for all sports to deal with various levels of infringement /misconduct. On field issues are to be implemented at the referee's discretion, however, members of the CSEN Board



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have the authority to intervene during a game if the CSEN Code of Conduct is breached. The Board will approach the coach of the offending team/player. If the breach continues a Yellow/Red card will be issued.

In addition, on the report of the Principal of a participating school, further disciplinary action may be taken for on-field and/or off-field offences by players, student spectators, parents, coaches and/or staff.

ON AND OFF-FIELD ISSUES

On-field issues are to be implemented by the referees at their discretion.

Off-field issues to be implemented by the referees/teacher-in-charge at their discretion

Individual Red Card Offences (General)

- Swearing (offensive, insulting and abusive language) - to be implemented at the referee's discretion
- fighting
- deliberate, unnecessary violence (eg attacking the head of a player)
- vandalism of facilities (eg hanging from basketball hoops)
- Spitting at an opponent
- Red card offence as per the rules/recommendations of the individual sport.

Individual Yellow Card Offences (General)

- acting in a manner which is in breach of the CSEN Code of Conduct
- arguing with a referee and / or dissent resulting from a referee's ruling
- showing dissent in an unacceptable gesture or action
- abuse of equipment (eg. throwing a softball bat)
- dangerous play (eg. late tackle in soccer)
- sledging or verbal provocation of opponents
- poor sportsmanship (eg. kicking the ball away after a penalty)
- inappropriate comments from bench players on the sideline
- yellow card offence as per the rules/recommendations of the individual sport

Team Offences - Red Card

- A team may at the referee's discretion, be awarded a red card for unacceptable and/or unsportsmanlike conduct as a whole team. (eg repeated foul play or sledging).
- A team may receive no more than 2 team yellow cards in the course of a competition before being ejected from the competition.
- Offences giving rise to this type of action may include on field and off field events.
- Totally unacceptable behaviour (ie vandalism of facilities or extreme insults to players, spectators or staff)
- Fight of 3 players or more involved from each team.
- Schools that do not honour and enforce the disciplinary procedures of CSEN will be ejected from the competition.



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Team Offences - Yellow Card

Unacceptable behaviour from a team or group of players, teachers, parents and spectators can warrant the issuing of a team yellow card.

Offences giving rise to this type of action may include on-field and off-field events, initiated either by the referee or a member of supervising staff. These may include the following:

- sledging or verbal provocation
- arguing with the referee
- acting in a manner which is in breach of CSEN Code of Conduct
- inappropriate behaviour at a school/venue
- abusing players from either side
- encouraging unacceptable behaviour and play
- arguing with/abusing the Sports Coordinator or supervising teacher/coach of another school
- interfering with the course of the game (eg pitch invasion)

CONSEQUENCES

Individual Red Card

A player receiving a red card will be sent from the field and can have no further involvement in the game.

- This player cannot be replaced by another player.
- A player receiving a red card will receive an automatic one match suspension from CSEN competition.
- A player may, at the discretion of the CSEN Board receive more than one week's suspension.
- A player receiving 2 red cards in the period of a competition will be suspended from the competition and their school requested to take further disciplinary action in line with their own discipline policy.

Team Red Card

A team receiving a red card will be automatically suspended from the competition.

At a Major Carnival

A player/team committing a red card offence will be banned from competing further on the day or the Disputes Committee will make an appropriate ruling.

All red card offences will be referred to the appropriate school principal for follow-up action in line with their own discipline policy.



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Individual Yellow Card

A player receiving a yellow card has received a warning that his/her actions were inappropriate.

- A player who receives or commits 2 yellow cards in the course of a match will receive a red card and will be sent from the field. (see above)
- A player who receives or commits 2 yellow cards over the period of 4 games will be automatically suspended from the next game.
- In the case of sports which use a sin bin as a means of discipline, a sin bin decision will constitute a yellow card record.

Team Yellow Card

A team receiving or committing a team yellow card offence will have the details recorded by the Competition Convener and a repeat of a yellow card offence by the team will constitute a red card and the team will be ejected from the competition.

APPEALS PROCESS

When the results of each game are given to the results coordinator, any players receiving a yellow or red card should be listed on the results sheet and a report attached indicating what took place.

If it is deemed necessary by the Competition Convener, an incident may be referred to a Disputes Committee to discuss the details and make a ruling. If not, the above consequences for a yellow and red card will be automatically recorded and enforced.

After discussion with both the Sports Coordinators and Principals of opposing schools, the principal of a school can request that the Disputes Committee meet to adjudicate on the details of the incident. This request must be in writing and presented within two working days of the incident to the CSEN Board.

After a Disputes Committee has made a ruling, the schools involved will be informed and each school has one full working day to lodge an appeal concerning the panel's ruling. Appeals are addressed to the relevant Competition Convener. The CSEN Board will call on members from the Disputes Committee to assist in the review of the original adjudication. Their joint ruling will be final.

Schools can lodge an expression of concern regarding the final ruling to the CSEN Board to enable a review of the processes, but the Executive Board will not overrule the finding of the CSEN Disputes Committee.

APPEALS PROCESS FOR CARNIVALS

At the conclusion of a Major Carnival any red card offences will be put in writing (within 1 week) by the Disputes Committee and sent to the principal of the offending school with further disciplinary recommendations.



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If the principal requests further discussion of the matter, an appeal must be lodged within 1 week to the CSEN Board. A meeting will then be organised between the principal, Disputes Committee members and any other relevant people, to resolve the problem.

Schools can lodge an expression of concern re the final ruling to the CSEN Executive Board, to enable a review of the processes, but the CSEN Executive Board will not overrule the finding of the CSEN Disputes Committee.

GUIDELINES FOR CARNIVAL CO-ORDINATORS

Any activity which is not approved by the CSEN Board is NOT covered by insurance.

Guidelines

- a) Carnivals should open with prayer and a general expression of the aims of the carnival and standards of conduct to parents, students etc.
- b) All member schools are to have at least 1 months' notice of date, venue (including map), starting and approximate finishing time.
- c) Announcements should be those only pertinent to the carnival and should include records broken, progressive and final points scores (if applicable), age champions (if applicable).

Officials

Co-ordinators and school representatives should ensure all officials are aware of the procedures and rules for the job/event they are running.

- a) Co-ordinators have the power to replace an official/s if deemed to be doing an unsatisfactory job or breaking the CSEN. Code of Conduct.
- b) In the case of disputes, the only communication must come via the school sports coordinator to the Carnival Referee at Major Carnivals or to the convener of the sport at other events.
- c) The Carnival Convener is to refer any incident/problem situation, that they are unable to settle, to the CSEN Board, in order to resolve the conflict.

First Aid

- a) Qualified first aid personnel are to be present at every CSEN Major Carnival involving the possibility of injury as per the First Aid Policy.
- b) Accident Report Forms are to be completed and forwarded to the CSEN Executive Officer at the end of the term.

Carnival Procedures

Information for schools for each Major Carnival are available on the CSEN Website.