**Discipline/Suspension Policy**

**Suspension** - Any league, association, coach, manager, player or member of this Association violating the Constitution, By-Laws or Operating Rules or refusing to abide by the decision of the Board of Directors, shall be suspended.

**Acts of Suspension** - Teams, coaches, managers or players will be suspended for conducting themselves in an unsportsmanlike and undesirous manner and without limiting the generality of the foregoing, for the following specific acts:

(a) Permitting betting or improper conduct by players, coaches or managers at games.

 **Automatic suspension for a period of one year from the date of suspension.**

(b) Offering, agreeing, conspiring or attempting to lose any games, or being interested in

 any pool or wagers thereon. **Automatic suspension for a period of one year from**

 **the date of suspension.**

1. Deliberately degrading the image of the Association or their representatives. **Suspension depends on severity**. **Goes to a Discipline Committee.**

(d) If a Manager, Coach or member of the team is involved in a major incident at a

 Canadian Championship. **Automatic suspension from participating in a**

 **Canadian Championship for a period of 2 years. Major defined by report from**

 **Softball Canada, examples - Physical altercations, Police involvement.**

 (e) Knowingly playing with or against a player, coach or manager who has been expelled

 or suspended. **Automatic suspension for a period of two months.**

(f) Refusing to sign the release of liability waiver form. **Suspension until such time as
 the release of liability form has been signed.**

(g) Using a player who is not eligible to play on that team. **Automatic suspension** **for a**

 **period of two months.**

(h) Fighting with other coaches, managers, players, officials or spectators. **Suspension
 depends on severity. Goes to a Discipline Committee.**

 (i) Verbal abuse, harassment of any official, player or spectator. **Suspension depends**

 **on severity. Goes to a Discipline Committee.**

(j) If a Manager, Coach, or member of the team management, offers money to a player

 for her services. **Automatic suspension for a period of one year from the date of**

 **suspension.**

 (k) If a player - having demanded money for her services. **Automatic suspension for a**

 **period of one year from the date of suspension.**

 (l) Submitting an N.S.F. cheque for payment of any fees to the Association. **Automatic**

 **suspension until cheque and all charges are cleared.**

 (m) When a player leaves her team, she must meet all financial obligations and return all

 parts of her uniform and property of the team/local organization, or pay the cost of the

 same, before playing with another team. Failure to do so will automatically place said

 player under suspension **until all property is** **returned or paid for.**

 (n) The consumption of alcoholic beverages or any other impairment inducing
 substances on or near diamond facilities. **Exception**: Any Licensed area.
 **Automatic suspension for game, if a single game and/or automatic suspension**
 **for Tournament, if a Tournament.**

**NOTE: Teams/Associations must submit any issues that may result in suspensions or discipline by September 5th of the current year.

Discipline Committee** -A Discipline Committee will be appointed by the President, and made up of at least three (3) appointees. No person involved with the incident shall be allowed to sit on the Discipline Committee.

**Matters Heard** - The Discipline Committee shall hear all matters of suspension or eligibility, and shall decide the penalty, if any, which should be imposed.

**Notices** -

1. In cases of automatic suspension, confirmation of the suspension shall be communicated in writing by the Divisional Coordinator.

1. In cases where there is a Discipline Committee, the decision of the Discipline Committee will be communicated in writing to all individuals affected, by the Chairman of the Discipline Committee.

1. If an appeal is received, it must be filed within seven (7) days from the date

 the notice of decision was received. Appeal MUST be in writing to the

 Association Secretary with a copy to the President.

1. If a hearing is necessary, the President or delegate will notify the individual alleged to have committed a major infraction within fourteen (14) days. Copies of the incident report and the umpires report (if applicable) shall be provided.

1. The individual appealing will be given ten (10) days of written notice of the date, time and place of the hearing.

**No Hearings at Tournament** - Suspension and eligibility hearings shall not be handled at a tournament site.

**Flagrant Offence** - When any person causes an offence of a flagrant nature, such as the use of obscene language or an assault (physical or verbal) upon a player, coach, manager, umpire or Board of Directors' member, that person shall be immediately removed from the game and said person, if a member of an Association affiliated team, shall automatically be suspended until a

hearing is held concerning the alleged offence. The Umpire shall, within twenty-four (24) hours thereafter, forward full particulars to the President with a copy to the Provincial Umpire-in-Chief.

**Team Suspension** - If a team competing in the U10 Girls, U12 Girls, U14 Girls or U16 Girls Division is suspended, such suspension shall be served by the coaches and manager of such team and not the team players.

  **Policy Name:** Discipline and Suspension
**Ratification Date:** January 12, 2019
**Review Date:** January, 2021