

August 1, 2009

TO: NJCAA Soccer Coaches

FROM: Men and Women's Soccer Chairs

RE: **NJCAA Soccer Procedures – All Divisions Both Men and Women**

Just a clarification on substitutions, timing and ejections procedures to follow at all NJCAA soccer games, so we can be consistent at each site.

**Substitutions:**

1. Unlimited substitutions (NJCAA exception to the NCAA rule)
2. A team may sub on their own throw-ins, their own corner kicks, and any goal kick.
3. If the proper team does sub, and the other team has a sub waiting at half-field, they may also sub at that time.
4. Subs should always be waiting a half-field to enter the game, not in front of their team bench.
5. When a player receives a yellow card, a substitute must report for this player, until the next legal substitution period. This includes the goalkeeper.

**Timing Procedures:**

1. The clock does not stop during substitutions (Exception to the NCAA rule)
2. The clock only stops on goals, injuries where the referee indicates stoppage of play, and when the referee is issuing caution and ejection cards (referee indicates stoppage of play)
3. At the end of the game, the clock operator is to call out the last ten seconds, and sound the horn, indicating the end of the match.

**Overtime:**

1. two-ten minute sudden-death periods

**Ejections:**

1. All caution (yellow cards) and ejection (red cards) should be reported on the NJCAA caution/roster form, forwarded to the Regional Director (signature) after the regional tournament. This form should then be forwarded to the national chair in their respective national tournaments. All teams advancing from the district tournaments should report all cards to the national chair.

## **NJCAA Sportsmanship Policy – Differ from NCAA Game Suspensions**

1. NJCAA Sportsmanship Policy requires all ejections to be reported on the NJCAA Game Ejection Form. Penalties for ejections differ from NCAA Soccer Rules.

First ejection for non-violent unsportsmanlike behavior requires a one contest suspension. Non-violent unsportsmanlike behavior is defined as profanity, vulgar gestures, trash talking, taunting or abusive language directed at players, coaches, referees, game management personnel and/or spectators. The use of tobacco or alcohol during NJCAA sponsored events is prohibited within this rule.

A second ejection for non-violent unsportsmanlike behavior requires a TWO contest suspension per NJCAA Sportsmanship Policy (Article XVIII). For the third non-violent ejections of the season, a four game suspension shall be served. Each subsequent ejection will result in a doubling of the suspension previously served.

The penalty for violent ejection has not changed. All ejections for violent behavior require a two game suspension per NJCAA rules. Should the player, coach or team personnel be ejected for violent behavior a second time during the same season, that individual shall be prohibited from participating in athletic contests of that institution for the remainder of the academic year, including postseason.

### **Accumulated Cautions and Game Suspensions**

1. Regular season games. Any player or coach who has received a total of five cautions in one season shall be suspended and shall not participate in the next regularly scheduled game, including post season games. Each three additional cautions shall result in additional one-game suspensions.

#### **Most Asked Questions Regarding Accumulation**

**a. A player receives two “yellow” cards in the same game. For accumulation purposes, how many “yellow” cards does she or he have?**

It is impossible to accumulate more than one “yellow” card per game inasmuch as the second card issued to the same person in the same game shall be red. The player shall be charged with one yellow card and one red card for accumulation purposes. The player serves a one game suspension for the red card, if the first red card of the season. If a second red is received during the same season then the player would have to sit two games. A third red card in the same season would require a four game suspension per NJCAA Sportsmanship Policy.

- b. An ejected player is scheduled to serve a game suspension in the next game, which subsequently is forfeited. Does the player have to miss the next regularly scheduled game?**

Yes, game suspensions shall be served with reference to actual games played.

- c. May an ejected player sit out a rescheduled game?**

Yes, if the game was rescheduled before the ejection and is the next game to be played.

- d. A player enters game with four (4) yellow cards, receives a caution (yellow) and later in the game is cautioned (yellow) again. The referee shows the yellow followed by a red card and ejects the player. How many games must the player sit?**

The player sits out two games. One game for five yellows and one game for the red card.

- e. A player enters game with one (1) non violent red card, receives a violent red. How many games must the player sit?**

The player sits out two games per NJCAA Sportsmanship Policy (Article XVIII) violent behavior ejection.