

# Purple Card Sanction Policy

## I. Purpose of Purple Card Sanction Policy

The purpose and intent of the Penalty Point Sanction policy, is to effectively address and sanction any inappropriate or prohibited behavior exhibited by any AZ Region member (adult or junior), parent or spectator, attending and observing any AZ Region-sponsored tournament match. This policy is further intended to preserve order in its activities and maintain the safety and protection of all AZ Region members. This policy outlines the procedural usage of the "PURPLE" card, which supplements the yellow and red sanction cards currently used by match official(s) (as dictated by the DCR). This policy replaces the Penalty Point Sanction policy. The Region Parent/Spectator Code of Conduct policy remains in effect.

## II. Prohibited Behavior

- A. Prohibited behavior would include, but not limited to, any comment(s) made or action(s) displayed, deemed by others as rude, profane, disrespectful, disruptive or aggressive, which interferes with the normal progress of a tournament match.
- B. Any behavior prohibited by USAV and the AZ Region Code of Conduct policies
- C. Any misconduct deemed contrary to normally accepted behavior, which results in the unnecessary interruption of a tournament match

## III. Those affected by this policy

This policy applies to the following:

1. Any AZ Region adult member, i.e. club directors, coaches, rostered adult(s) or chaperones NOT currently participating in the match and has assumed the role of spectator. This policy also applies to these same individual(s) displaying misconduct BEFORE the start of a match, as well as AFTER the match has officially ended.
2. Any AZ Region junior player displaying misconduct BEFORE the start of a match, as well as AFTER the match has officially ended. (See Section VI for sanction guidelines for junior players)
3. Any non-Region member, i.e. parent(s) or relative(s) of any AZ Region member
4. Any attendee or spectator of an AZ Region sanctioned tournament match

## IV. When this policy is applicable

- A. The use of yellow and red card sanctions will remain in force, according to the policies and procedures set by the Domestic Competition Rules (DCR)
- B. Use of the "Purple" Sanction card may be applied to any situation during a match, where spectator misbehavior occurs and the 1st Referee deems it necessary to address the misbehavior.
- C. For misconduct by anyone before or after a match has ended, the Parent/Spectator Code of Ethics is in effect.

## V. Application of the Purple Warning Card

### A. Minor Conduct

1. Minor misconduct offenses are not subject to sanctions. It is the duty of the

1<sup>st</sup> Referee to prevent spectators and parents from reaching the sanctioning level. This can be done in two stages:

- a. Stage 1: Verbal Warning
- b. Stage 2: Issuance of Purple and Yellow Card Warning  
This warning is issued to the team in which the offending spectator or parent is affiliated. The 1<sup>st</sup> Referee shall hold up the Purple and Yellow cards in one hand, initiating this issuance. Both team captains are then summoned to the referee stand. This then is followed by a notification of the team warning, through the game captains to their head coach, that a parent or spectator affiliated with their team has reached the sanctioning level. Once either head coach determines affiliation, that head coach must inform the offender of the warning. This formal warning is not in itself a sanction but a symbol that misconduct has reached the sanctioning level for the match.
- c. In the event the offender refuses to identify their team affiliation or fails to comply with the 1<sup>st</sup> Referee's request for identification, that offender is subject to a more serious sanction, including expulsion from the playing facility for the remainder of the tournament day.
- d. Purple card warnings are assessed to the affiliated team and are in force for the entire match. This means that each team may only receive one purple card warning.
- e. Purple card warnings are recorded in the score sheet but have no immediate consequences.

## B. Misconduct Leading to Sanctions

1. Inappropriate conduct by a spectator or parent toward officials, playing teams, other parents or spectators is classified in three categories according to the seriousness of the offense.
  - a. Rude Conduct: actions contrary to good manners or moral principles
  - b. Offensive Conduct: defamatory or insulting words or gestures or any action expressing contempt.
  - c. Aggression: actual physical attack or aggressive or threatening behavior

## C. Sanction Scale

1. According to the judgment of the 1<sup>st</sup> Referee and depending upon the seriousness of the offense, the sanctions to be applied and recorded on the score sheet are **Penalty, Expulsion and Ejection/Ban**.
  - a. **Penalty:** Rude or minor offensive conduct in the match by any parent or spectator is penalized with a point and service to the opponent
  - b. **Expulsion** from the facility: Serious offensive misconduct by any parent or spectator is expulsion from the playing facility for the remainder of the tournament day with no other consequences.
  - c. **Ejection/Ban** from the facility: Aggressive misconduct, e.g. physical attack, implied or threatened aggression, by any parent or spectator is automatically ejected from the tournament facility and banned from any

AZ Region-sponsored event, tournament, practice, or related activity. This ban extends to all USAV/AZ Region affiliated practice or playing facilities for the remainder of the entire current season. No other consequences are applied.

D. Application of Misconduct Sanctions

1. When Penalty sanctions are issued, it is displayed as Purple and Red cards held up jointly in one hand.
2. When Expulsion sanctions are issued, it is displayed as Purple and Red cards held up separately.
3. When Ejection/Bans are issued, no cards will be displayed. The 1<sup>st</sup> Referee immediately stops the match and secures the safety of those in the match. All Expulsions or Ejection/Bans require the notification and involvement of the Lead Official and/or Site Director for the following purposes:
  - a. Documentation, e.g. Score sheet, Match Comment Form, Incident Reports, Facility forms, etc.
  - b. Timely notification of the Region Ethics Compliance Officer
  - c. Secure the removal of the offender from the facility
4. All misconduct sanctions are individual sanctions, remain in force for the entire match and are recorded on the score sheet.
5. Repetition of misconduct by the same parent or spectator in the same match is sanctioned progressively, which means that a more severe sanction is given for each successive offense.
6. Expulsions or Ejection/Bans, due to offensive or aggressive misconduct does not require a previous sanction.

**NOTE: Upon the refusal of the offender to vacate the playing facility, local law enforcement will be notified immediately.**

E. Reinstatement

Parents or spectators sanctioned with an **Ejection/Ban** can only be reinstated, by a recommendation of the Region Ethics Compliance Officer and the approval of the Region Commissioner.

VI. Application of Misconduct Warnings and Sanctions Against Junior Players

In the event participating junior player displays misconduct in a Region tournament as a spectator during a match or before/after a match, the following sanction guidelines shall be applied:

1. Any misconduct deserving a warning or sanction shall be directed by the Parent/Spectator Code of Conduct.
2. If a junior player is charged with expulsion or ejection/ban, the player becomes the direct responsibility of the parent(s) or the head coach/club director.
  - a. Junior players are not to be expelled or ejected from any playing facility individually, but fall under the direct supervision of parent(s) or the head coach/club director. No further participation by the player is allowed.
  - b. A Match Comment Form must be submitted to the Region Office.

## VII. Recording Warnings and Sanctions on the Score Sheet

1. Issuance of Purple and Yellow Cards jointly (Misconduct Warning)  
Record a PC in the **W Warn** column; record the team at fault, the set number, and the score.
2. Issuance of Purple and Red Cards jointly (Misconduct Penalty)
  - a. Record a PC in the **P Penalty** column, record the team at fault, the set number, and the score at the time of penalty.
  - b. If penalty is against the serving team, record the serving team's exit score.
  - c. Record the awarded penalty point. Slash and circle the opposing team's next point in the **POINTS COLUMN**
3. Issuance of Purple and Red Cards shown apart (Misconduct Expulsion)
  - a. Record a P in the **E Expel** column, record the team at fault, the set number, and the score at the time of expulsion.
  - b. No loss of service or penalty point awarded.
4. For Purple Ejection, a note on the **REMARKS** Section will give the following information: Purple Ejection, Full Name (If available), team at fault, set number, and the score at the time of ejection (Score of team at fault is first)

## VIII. Summary of Misconduct and Card Display

**Warning** (No Sanction): Stage 1 – Verbal Warning  
Stage 2 - symbol Purple and Yellow card held jointly  
Warning recorded on score sheet

**Penalty** (Point and serve to opponent):  
Symbol – Purple and Red card held jointly  
Penalty recorded on score sheet

**Expulsion** (Expelled from playing facility for remainder of Tournament day):  
Symbol - Purple and Red card held separately  
Expulsion is recorded on Score sheet

**(Note: See Section VI for sanction guidelines for junior players.  
AZ Region Match Comment Form and ECO notification is required)**

**Ejection/Ban** (Ejected from facility or removal/Suspended from Region Tournaments for remainder of season):  
NO card display - Stop match - Notify Lead official/Site Director-Ejection/Bans are recorded on score sheets

**(Note: See Section VI for sanction guidelines for junior players.  
AZ Region Match Comment Form and ECO notification is required)**