

USE OF RED CARDS, YELLOW CARDS IN REC PLUS: HIGH SCHOOL FIGHTING INITIATIVE

Arlington Soccer encourages and expects players, parents, coaches, staff, volunteers and spectators to embrace our core values, treat others with respect, and abide by the codes of conduct. The Club thrives when all its members work together to ensure a safe, inclusive, nurturing and fun environment in which to play soccer.

The Club has established codes of conduct for coaches, players, and parents. A unifying element of the codes is respect for players, coaches, staff, parents, the Club and community. Arlington Soccer will take steps necessary to ensure the safety of players and game officials, including penalties and sanctions: ASA has banned coaches and players in perpetuity, forfeited games, and suspended players and coaches.

Potential sanctions differ by age and grade of the players.

In the Kindergarten – 2nd grade groups, there will be no yellow or red cards issued to players. If the referee or game leader feels that a player has acted recklessly or in a dangerous manner, the referee or game leader will ask the player's coach to make a substitution for that player. The player may return to the game at a later time. There will be no suspensions or ramifications issued to the player for the first offense. A second offense should involve a conversation with and by that player's coach. After a third offense in the same game, the player can be substituted out and not return to the game. In this case, however, the coach and the player's parents should develop an education plan for the player.

In the 3rd through 8th grade divisions, the FIFA rules regarding yellow and red card will apply. Any player receiving a second yellow card or a red card in a game will be required to leave the game without substitution. The player's team must play short-handed for the remainder of that game. The player will also be required to sit out the next official Arlington Soccer game played by the player's team. The player's team will be allowed to play that game with the full allotment of players. It will be the team coach's responsibility to enforce the sit out rule.

In the High School divisions, FIFA red and yellow card rules apply. Also, any player who receives a red card for violent conduct or serious foul play will be required to sit out their team's next official two games. The player's team will be allowed to play those games with the full allotment of players. It will be the team coach's responsibility to enforce the sit out rule. Additionally, in the event a rostered player who is not currently one of the established players on the field enters the field to participate in a brawl, the team of that player will immediately forfeit the game, and the offending player(s) will receive a straight red card for violent conduct or serious foul play, as appropriate.

Team coaches will be required to report any player who is ejected from a game (2 yellow cards or a red card) with the game score report, plus via an email to the Rec Director.

A player receiving a red card may be subject to additional penalties imposed by Arlington Soccer staff, the rules and discipline sub-committee or other established subgroups.

Referees for all ARL games will be instructed that, if the behavior of a coach, assistant coach or spectator, in the opinion of the referee, violates the ARL Code of Conduct, the referee may show that person a red card and require the person to leave the playing area before the game continues. Failure to comply with the referee's instructions will be cause to terminate the game (see also: Conduct of Adults; Conduct of Coaches).

Teams as a whole may also be subject to sanction for individuals' behavior, especially in the case of repeated problems.