



A GUIDE TO UMPIRES

RED CARD, TECHNICAL RED CARD OR MATCHDAY MISCONDUCT OFFENCES

If an umpire issues a Red Card or a Technical Red Card during a match or a Matchday Misconduct Offence on the day of the match it will have to be reported.

The procedures are slightly different depending whether you are a minimum Level 1 umpire or an umpire who is not qualified or registered.

Unqualified or unregistered umpires

You need to report the details to the Club of the player, manager or coach but also to me, as County Disciplinary Administrator. The penalties that will subsequently be imposed on the individual involved will need to be in line with those detailed in the England Hockey Code of Ethics and Behaviour.

Level 1 umpires and above

You must complete the Red Card/Matchday Misconduct Report Form in all cases and email it to the County Disciplinary Administrator of the County to which the players club is affiliated within 72 hours of the offence but, in addition, should immediately verbally advise that Disciplinary Administrator that they will be emailing the Report Form.

If the player is not from a Kent Club the details of whom to contact and where to email the Form can be seen on the South or East Discipline Officers List, which appear on the KHUA website under the dropdown menu of 'Information' and then 'Web Handbook and Downloads'. It is under the 'Discipline' section where the Red Card/Matchday Misconduct Report Form can also be downloaded. If the person is affiliated from a club from outside the South Region please telephone me and I will provide you with details as to whom to contact.

What is the difference between a Red Card, a Technical Red Card and a Matchday Misconduct Offence?

Red Card

A Red Card can be shown to anyone who is part of the squad who is allowed on the bench during a match. The match does also include the halftime interval. Once the Red Card is shown the person (player, coach, manager) has to leave the pitch area. In most cases where there are fences around the pitch the person would need to move away from that area but you must take into consideration if the person is under the age of 18 as he/she will need to be accompanied away from the pitch by an adult. A Red Card cannot be rescinded except in the case of mistaken identity.

Once the Red Card has been shown the name of the player, his number and age if under 18 will need to be taken. In difficult situations it may be advisable to get these details from the captain. After the match you may only speak to the captain of the team for whom the person was in the squad of and you should not get involved in lengthy conversations about it but merely advise the captain whether violence was offered, threatened or used against a player, official or umpire.

Suspensions for Red Cards given will be subject to a minimum suspension of 16 days with higher penalties imposed where violence was used, threatened or attempted or in cases of verbal abuse of umpires or officials.

Technical Red Card

A Technical Red Card for identical offences for which a Yellow Card was shown for the first offence can be shown to anyone who is part of the squad who is allowed on the bench during a match. The match does also include the halftime interval. Once the Red Card is shown the person (player, coach, manager) has to leave the pitch area. In most cases where there are fences around the pitch the person would need to move away from that area but you must take into consideration if the person is under the age of 18 as he/she will need to be accompanied away from the pitch by an adult. A Technical Red Card covers identical minor offences but not those where the umpires or officials were subject to verbal abuse or where physical violence was used, threatened or attempted against players or officials where the normal Red Card and suspensions would apply. In the cases of the issue of a Technical Red Card the person is only suspended for the remainder of the match but the normal Red Card/Matchday Misconduct Form will still need to be completed but to show that it was an offence under Section 8. d) on the Form.

Once the Red Card has been shown the name of the player, his number and age if under 18 will need to be taken. In difficult situations it may be advisable to get these details from the captain. After the match you may only speak to the captain of the team for whom the person was in the squad of and you should not get involved in lengthy conversations about it but merely advise the captain whether violence was offered, threatened or used against a player, official or umpire.

Matchday Misconduct Offence

A Matchday Misconduct Offence can only be issued before or after the match and can only be issued on the day of the match and applies to offences that would have warranted a Red Card being issued if the offence had occurred during the actual match or halftime interval.

The umpire must advise a senior official of the club for whom the player, manager or coach was involved that a Matchday Misconduct Offence occurred and will be reported and this MUST be advised before the umpire leaves the club.

Matchday Misconduct Offences cannot be given in respect of technical minor incidents that occur before or after a match.

The Red Card/Matchday Misconduct Form where a player, substitute, manager or coach from Kent affiliated club is involved should be emailed to me at alansargent1951@btinternet.com within 72 hours of the offence after telephoning me on my mobile 07703 491586 as soon as possible after the incident. For offences involving players, substitutes, managers or coaches from clubs affiliated to other counties the completed Form will need to be emailed to the County Disciplinary Administrator of that county.

It is strongly suggested that both umpires should write down what happened as soon as possible after the game before completing the Report Form.

The latest version of the Red Card/Matchday Misconduct Report Form MUST be used and that should be downloaded from the KHUA website.

Under Section 9 of the Form please indicate if anything had happened before the Red Card/Matchday Misconduct Offence (for example had the person be warned by the umpires or received Green or Yellow Cards). Please then include what happened to result in the Red Card, Technical Red Card being shown or the Matchday Misconduct Offence being issued. Finally, state whether the person left the area without further problems and whether you were faced with any difficulties after the match.

If you are unsure about anything relating to the incident or the completion of the Red Card/Matchday Misconduct Form please contact me and I will chat it through with you.

**Alan Sargent
County Disciplinary Administrator
Kent Hockey Association**

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