

## CLUB CIRCULAR - 13, 2018/5/21

**Subject:** Community Football Tribunal – Junior Football Update

**Date:** 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2018

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**West Australian Football Commission**

**Audience:** Junior Club Presidents & JCC Officials

<b>Summary:</b>  An outline of the processes and commonly asked questions in relation to the Community Football Tribunal in Junior Football.	<b>Club Action:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Review upon receipt of any Reports within your club.</li></ul>
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The Community Football Tribunal is required to operate within a Terms of Reference for all cases which can be downloaded [here](#). This provides a clear outline of penalty scope, appeal process and tribunal operations. The process for reports and investigations is outlined on page 92 of the [Junior Club Manual](#).

Upon receipt of a Report, there are three categories this may fit into:

- Low Level Offence – Relatively minor incidents that receive a maximum of a 1-week suspension and cannot be challenged at the Tribunal. Clubs **may** be given the opportunity to provide evidence to the JCC as to why they should downgrade a Red or Yellow card.
- Classifiable Offence – A mid-range offence that can be offered a prescribed penalty. If a player accepts their prescribed penalty they receive a week discount – which is called an ‘early guilty plea’.
- Direct to Tribunal – A relatively serious offence which is sent directly to the tribunal without a prescribed penalty offered and the penalty will likely exceed 3 weeks if found guilty.

### Classifiable Offences

Classifiable offences are graded using the grading table outlined on Page 94 of the Junior Club Manual based on the conduct, impact and contact of the offence. If a person wishes to decline the prescribed penalty offered and take it to the tribunal, they must be able to prove that the grading of the incident was incorrect, or the incident didn’t occur at all.

If a person is found guilty of the classifiable offence as it was graded, at minimum they will receive the base sanction as outlined in the grading table.

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If the person is found guilty of a lesser offence – for example if the intent is downgraded from Intentional to Careless – at minimum they will receive the base sanction of that offence.

### Helpful Definitions

The below definitions act as a guide when determining the grading of classifiable offences:

### CONDUCT

**Intentional** - A player intentionally commits a Classifiable Offence if the player engages in the conduct constituting the Reportable Offence with the intention of committing that offence.

- An intention is a state of mind. Intention may be formed on the spur of the moment.
- Whether or not a player intentionally commits a Reportable Offence depends upon the state of mind of the player when the act is committed.
- For example, a strike will be regarded as Intentional where a player delivers a blow to an opponent with the intention of striking them, regardless of where contact was intended.

**Careless** - A player's conduct will be regarded as 'Careless Conduct' where it constitutes a breach of the duty of care owed by the player to all other players.

- Each player owes a duty of care to all other players, umpires and other persons (as applicable) not to engage in conduct which will constitute a Reportable Offence being committed against that other player, umpire or other person (as applicable).
- To constitute a breach of duty of care, the conduct must be such that a reasonable player would not regard an act as reasonable in all circumstances.
- A player will be deemed careless if they breach their duty to take reasonable care to avoid acts which can be reasonably foreseen to result in a Reportable Offence.

### IMPACT

The below impact definitions act as guides for the competition when grading incidents however the tribunal are not bound by these definitions. Post match injury may also be factored in to the impact rating.

- **Severe** – The impacted payer (victim) is stretchered or carried off the field and requires urgent medical attention.
  - **High** – The victim is visibly impacted from the incident and is helped from the field and/or takes no further part in the game.
  - **Medium** – The victim is visibly impacted from the incident.
  - **Low** – The victim is unaffected by the impact or incident.
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