

MYS Discipline Escalation Guide

Overview

The purpose of this guide is to help Melrose Youth Soccer (MYS) coaches and administrators have a common framework for handling discipline issues within MYS teams.

Severity Levels

We will put different behavioral issues into buckets of increasing severity as follows:

Level 1 - Green

Behavior at this level can and should be handled by the coach without any need for escalation.

- Not listening to directions
- Not working hard
- Goofing off
- Blowing off practices or games

Coaches should still take note of these behaviors and, if persistent, be factored into the players [end of year evaluation](#).

Level 2 - Yellow

Behavior at this level and above should not be tolerated, but can often be handled by the coach:

- Antagonizing other players (i.e. not at hate speech level but more like “that was stupid”)
- Continuous fouling/being overly physical (above and beyond what is allowed in the game)

In most cases, coaches should try to handle a first time infraction at this level by just talking to the player about it. If, however, the behavior persists the coach does have the option to issue an [official warning](#).

Level 3 - Orange

Behavior at this level requires at least an [official warning](#) be issued:

- Verbally abusing other players (i.e. hate speech or bullying)
- Purposely causing or attempting to cause physical harm to another player

Even one instance of these behaviors can warrant an official warning and repeated offenses can lead to [suspension](#) or [expulsion](#).

Level 4 - Red

This is the most severe level and can lead to immediate suspension or even [expulsion](#):

- Purposely causing major injury
- Fighting

Escalation Levels

The following are the different levels of escalation and punishment. These are not an exact match to the Severity Levels because coaches can use some discretion and repeat offenders at lower Severity Level behaviors can still lead to an increase in Escalation Level.

Level 1 - Official Warning

- Coach emails the MYS Child Safety Officer with details
- Child Safety Officer saves documentation about official warning
- The coach and/or Child Safety Officer talks to parents

Level 2 - Suspension

- Coach emails the MYS Child Safety Officer with details
- Child Safety Officer saves documentation about suspension
- Child Safety Officer talks to parents
- Player not allowed to practice or play in games for a time period determined by the Child Safety Officer

Level 3 - Expulsion

- Coach emails the MYS Child Safety Officer with details
- Child Safety Officer saves documentation about suspension
- Child Safety Officer talks to parents
- Player banned from Melrose Youth Soccer for at least one year. After one year, player can petition to be reinstated after one year, but would need board approval

Coach Evaluations and Team Placements

Coaches are encouraged to keep track of all disciplinary issues with players, even at the [Green Severity Level](#). In the end-of-year coach evaluations, the coach should include the appropriate details. Placement coordinators can largely use this information at their discretion.