A
READY REFERENCE GUIDE
ON
JUDICIARY MATTERS

TOUCH FOOTBALL AUSTRALIA

COPYRIGHT © Touch Football Australia
This manual is protected by International and National Copyright Laws. No part may be copied or reproduced by any means, electronic or hard copy, without written permission from Touch Football Australia who will secure clearances from prospective authors.

FOREWORD

This book has been produced to provide the membership of Touch Football Australia with a ready reference guide on judiciary matters. It is intended to be a reasonably complete account of how a Touch Association might conduct a fair and impartial judiciary system. As such, it is organised into the following six sections each of which addresses a specific area of the judiciary process. The reader will find some information provided in more than one section.

1. The steps involved in the Report, Judiciary and Appeals Processes;

2. The actions required during the Judiciary Hearing;

3. Procedural issues of the Judiciary Hearing;

4. Regulations governing the Judiciary Committee and Appeal Tribunal;

5. A list of suggested penalties for offences;

6. Schedules to use for Reports, Notices of Hearings & Findings of the Judiciary and Appeal Tribunals.

It is recommended that individual Touch Associations adapt the contents of this book as necessary to suit their own particular requirements and then formally adopt them, through their General Committee Meeting, to form part of their own by-laws. Individual Touch Associations are advised to refer any queries regarding judiciary matters to their State Body, as some State Bodies have their own distinct Judiciary by-laws in place.

Acknowledgment is made to the authors of the source publications that have been used as reference material in the compilation of this book. Sincere appreciation is extended to all those who gave of their time to continually review this book through its many draft stages, primarily the members of the National Technical Panel editing committee and in particular the National Coaching Director, Cary Thompson. Special mention must also be made of the ATA Chief Executive Officer, Bill Ker, whose timely advice and support ensured the book remained easy to read.

Jim Stackpoole
National Referees' Panel

Glenys Woolcock
National Technical Panel

REFERENCES

Jonson, P.T. (1987) **"A Touch Association Judiciary."**
Australian Touch Association, Canberra.

Stackpoole, J.L. (1992) **"Independent Judiciary Regulations and Procedures."**
North Queensland Touch Association, Townsville.

Thompson, C.T. (6th Edition) **"ATA Playing Rules, Explanations & Interpretations."**
Australian Touch Association, Canberra.

Woolcock, G.B. (1990) **"Recommended Disciplinary Procedures."**
North Queensland Touch Association, Townsville.

Young, P (1992) **"Touch Judiciary Guide Procedure Flowchart."**
Central Queensland Touch Association, Gladstone.

THE AUTHORS

Jim Stackpoole is a superintendent of Police in the Queensland Police Service. He was a member of the ATA Referees Panel from 1987-96, and was the Technical Director for the North Queensland Touch Association for six years. He has been the co-author of the ATA Referee Coordinator's Manual, the Signals Booklet for Touch Referees and the Skill Decider.

Jim is a Level 6 Referee, former National Selector and Level 2 Coach. He also possesses coaching qualifications in Life Saving and Judo.

Jim has been an advocate for standardised Judiciary procedures for many years, and has conducted courses on Judiciary procedures, legal responsibilities for Touch officials and risk management for Touch Associations.

Glenys Woolcock is a former Executive Officer of the Queensland Touch Association. She has completed a Bachelor of Arts degree with a Psychology Major at James Cook University of North Queensland.

Glenys is a past Australian Women's Open and Over 27's Representatives player, and in 1995 achieved her Level 6 Referees Badge at the Australian National Championships. She is also a Level 3 Coach, a Level 2 Selector and Level 4 Touch Course Presenter.

Glenys has been a member of the Australian Touch Association's Technical Panel since 1989, and was inducted into the Australian Touch Association Hall of Fame in 1991.

Table of Contents

	DESCRIPTIONS	PAGE
	Glossary of Terms	1
SECTION 1:	**Steps involved in the Report, Judiciary and Appeals Process**	2
	Flowchart : Report, Judiciary & Appeals Process	
1.	Infringements and Misconduct	4
2.	Reports and how to write them	4
3.	Actions following receipt of a written report	5
4.	Actions following decision to convene the Judiciary	5
5.	Suspensions pending a Judiciary hearing	5
6.	Actions following the finding of the Judiciary	5
7.	First right of Appeal	6
8.	Suspensions pending an Appeal Tribunal hearing	6
9.	Actions following receipt of first appeal	6
10.	Second right of appeal	7
11.	Actions following receipt of second appeal	7
12.	Third and fourth rights of appeal	8
13.	Actions following receipt of third or fourth appeal	8
14.	Who may lodge an appeal	8
15.	Keeping a Judiciary Actions File	9
SECTION 2:	**Actions during the Judiciary Hearing**	10
	Flowchart : Conducting the Judiciary Hearing	
1.	Announcement of the right of attendance of all parties	12
2.	Reading the Report	12
3.	If the Plea is "Guilty'	12
4.	If the Plea is "Not Guilty"	12
	First: Presenting the case	12
	Second: Presenting the defence	13
5.	Decision Time	13
6.	Notification of findings of the Judiciary	13

Table of Contents

RULE #	DESCRIPTIONS	
SECTION 3:	**Procedural Issues of the Judiciary Hearing**	14
1.	Location	15
2.	Timing	15
3.	Attendance	15
4.	Recording of Events	15
5.	Nature of the Hearing	16
6.	Non-appearance of Persons	16
7.	Adjournments	16
8.	Information supplied at a hearing	16
9.	Inaccuracies in reports	17
10.	Video evidence	17
SECTION 4:	**Regulations governing the Judiciary Committee & Appeal Tribunal**	18
1.	Aim	19
2.	Functions and Duties	19
3.	Members of the Judiciary Committee	19
4.	Appointment of Members to serve on a Judiciary hearing	19
5.	Powers and Authorities of the Judiciary	20
6.	Powers of the Chairperson	21
7.	Interference with Functions and Duties	21
8.	Membership of the Appeal Tribunal	21
9.	Conduct of the Appeal Tribunal hearing	22
10.	Powers and Authorities of the Appeal Tribunal	22
11.	Appeal Fees	22
12.	Amendments to Regulations	22

Table of Contents

RULE #	DESCRIPTIONS	PAGE
SECTION 5:	**List of Suggested Penalties**	23
1.	Suggested penalties are provided as a guideline only	24
2.	Minimum and Maximum Penalties	24
3.	Each individual case must be judged upon its own merits	24
4.	The reason for imposing penalties	24
5.	The scope of a penalty	24
6.	Good Behavior Bonds	24
7.	Provocation is no excuse for retaliation	24
8.	Suggested penalties: For infringements against another player	25
9.	Suggested penalties: For infringements against a referee or official	26
10.	Suggested penalties: For other infringements	27

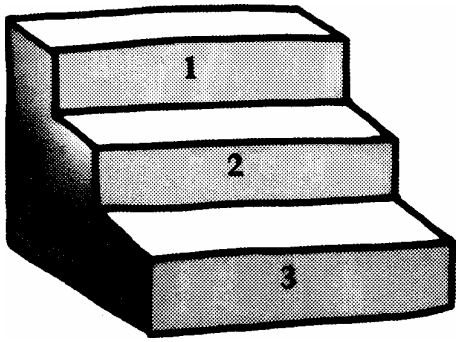
SECTION 6: Schedules: Reports, Notices & Findings proforms

Incident Report	Schedule A (i)
(Optional) Referees' Incident Report	Schedule A (ii)
Protest	Schedule A (iii)
Notice of Judiciary Hearing	Schedule B
Notice of Finding of the Judiciary	Schedule C
Notice of Appeal	Schedule D
Notice of Appeal Tribunal Hearing	Schedule E
Notice of Finding of the Appeal Tribunal	Schedule F
Judiciary Actions Register	Schedule G
Judiciary Hearing Minutes	Schedule H

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Advocate	A person who may attend a Judiciary hearing to assist and/or speak on behalf of either the report writer or subject person.
Appeal	An action undertaken by an aggrieved person/s to provide them with the recourse to challenge the findings or decisions handed down by a Judiciary hearing.
Appeal Tribunal	A Touch Association's procedure to determine whether or not the appeal is substantiated.
Appellant	The person/s, party or parties who lodge an appeal.
By-laws	A set of subsidiary laws (rules) that are set by the Touch Association's General Committee and which may change from time to *time. The Judiciary Book should be formally adopted as part of a Touch Association's by-laws.*
Constitution	A set of regulations (rules) stipulating how a Touch Association is governed, and which should provide for a Judiciary and by-laws.
Incident Report	A written report on any incident involving an alleged breach of the playing rules of Touch.
Judiciary Committee	A committee consisting of a Chairperson and a number of members who from time to time are appointed to serve at a Judiciary hearing.
Judiciary Hearing	A Touch Association's procedure to determine whether or not the charges brought against any person or party are substantiated.
Misconduct	Any conduct that is perceived to be unfair, unjust or not in the best interest of the sport of Touch.
National Association	Touch Football Australia (TFA).
Penalty (Judiciary)	The imposition of a suspension from participation, monetary fine, good behaviour bond or other appropriate action as deemed necessary by the Judiciary for the express purpose of discouraging any unacceptable behaviours from any Association members, either on or off the field of play.
Penalty (Referee)	The action taken by the referee in awarding a penalty tap when a player or team infringes the rules of the game.
Protest	A written objection about an alleged misconduct.
Regional Association	The region in which the Touch Association is located. (NB: some States and Territories of the TFA do not have regions.)
Report Writer/s	The person/s, party or parties who write a report.
State Association	The State or Territory in which the Touch Association is located. (ie: one of the Constituent Bodies of the TFA.)
Subject Person/s	The person/s, party or parties who are the subject of a report.
Touch Association	The affiliated Association responsible for conducting the competition in which the alleged incident or misconduct occurred.

SECTION 1



The steps involved in the Report, Judiciary and Appeal Process

Flowchart:

Report, Judiciary & Appeals
Process

Incident Report Submitted

↓

Delivered to the
designated Touch Official

↓

Referred to the Judiciary Chairperson

↓

Chairperson assesses the situation

↙ ↘

1. Handles alone or Convenes judiciary

↙

First right of appeal
to touch association Appeal Tribunal

↓

Second right of appeal
to regional association Appeal Tribunal

↓

Third right of appeal
to state association Appeal Tribunal

↓

Fourth right of appeal
to national association Appeal Tribunal

1. INFRINGEMENTS & MISCONDUCT:

Players and officials who infringe the playing rules of Touch or take part in any misconduct are liable to penalty or other appropriate action according to the seriousness of the infringement or misconduct, in accordance with the provisions of the TFA Playing Rules [Rule 17].

a) Minor offences: are usually handled by the referee/s who have the following options available to them. Minor offences are not compelled to be sent before a Judiciary hearing.

(i) Caution issued to the offending player, or in the case of an offending official, to the captain of the offending official's team.

(ii) Penalty issued to the team of the offending player or offending official.

(iii) Dismissal for a period of time. (NB: A second dismissal from the field of play for a period of time results in a dismissal for the remainder of game).

(iv) Captain given option to sideline offending player or remove offending official from the playing area under the control of the referee.

b) More serious offences: usually result in either one or both of the following.

(i) Dismissal for the remainder of game. (NB: Although a dismissal for the remainder of the game results in an automatic two match suspension, a dismissal is not compelled to be sent before a Judiciary hearing, but it may be, as subject to Rule 3 herein).

(ii) An Incident Report submitted.

c) Extreme breaches of the Playing Rules: should result in both a dismissal and an Incident report being submitted. By virtue of their extreme nature they should be sent before a Judiciary Hearing.

2. REPORTS & HOW TO WRITE THEM:

a) Incident reports: [Schedule A (i) or Schedule A (ii)]

(i) Referees must submit, to a designated Touch Association official, a written incident report on any player/s dismissed for the remainder of the game, within the required time in accordance with the provisions of the by-laws of the Touch Association. (Recommended no later than 48 hours).

(ii) Referee/s may at their discretion submit a written incident report on any player or official who, in their opinion, has breached the playing rules of Touch. A dismissal for a period of time is not a necessary prerequisite for the submission of a report.

(iii) Any association, club, team, official, or person may at their discretion submit a written incident report on any other association, club, team, official or person who, in their opinion, has breached the playing rules of Touch.

(iv) Following any incident that requires a written incident report, it is strongly recommended that the Report Writer/s should immediately remove themselves to a private place to write down all of the facts surrounding the incident. Great care must be taken to ensure that personal opinions, assumptions, prejudgments and emotive language are not used. Once this initial report is written, a 'cooling off period' of between 12 to 24 hours should then be allowed before the Report Writer/s re-read and complete their written report on the incident. The report is then submitted.

b) <u>Protest:</u> [Schedule A (iii)]

Any association, club, team, official, or person may cite another association, club, team, official or person for misconduct on or off the field of play. Protests must be in the form of a written protest report and submitted to the designated Touch Association official, within the required time in accordance with the provisions of the by-laws of the Touch Association. (Recommended no later than 48 hours).

3. ACTIONS FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF A WRITTEN REPORT:

Upon receipt of a report, the Judiciary Chairperson (or person delegated the authority for such matters) shall decide whether further action is necessary. Should the report not warrant further action there is no need to convene a Judiciary. Should the report warrant further action, the Judiciary shall hear the matter.

Where an incident report is received with regard to a player dismissed for the remainder of the game, "further action" would include increasing or decreasing the automatic two match suspension. The subject player also has the right to appeal against the automatic two match suspension (and pay an appeal fee of $50), thereby resulting in a Judiciary Hearing.

4. ACTIONS FOLLOWING DECISION TO CONVENE THE JUDICIARY:

a) All hearings of the Judiciary shall be instigated by the issue and service of a Notice of Judiciary Hearing [Schedule "B"]. Such notice shall not require attendance of the subject person/s within three days after the date of service of such notice.

b) Judiciary Hearings shall be held at a time in accordance with the Touch Association's constitution. If not covered therein, then as soon as possible after the event but allowing sufficient time for the subject person/s to prepare to appear before the Judiciary (at least three days as stated above).

NB: Section 2 of this book covers the necessary actions required <u>during,</u> the Judiciary Hearing.

5. SUSPENSIONS PENDING A JUDICIARY HEARING:

Where an incident report is received with regard to a player not dismissed for the remainder of the game the player is not deemed to be under any suspension, as the laws of natural justice must prevail. If the resulting Judiciary is not convened prior to the next competition match the player participates in, then the player is eligible to participate.

6. ACTIONS FOLLOWING THE FINDING OF THE JUDICIARY:

a) The proceedings and findings of the Judiciary Hearing shall be recorded in the minutes of the Judiciary Hearing and shall be signed by the Judiciary Chairperson.

b) A Notice of Finding [Schedule "C"] shall be issued and served by the Judiciary Chairperson, or their delegate, to all relevant parties, as follows:

(i) The Subject Person/s (ie: offending player or official);

(ii) The Report Writer/s (ie: referee, etc.);

(iii) Any third party (ie: as in the case of a protest);

(iv) The Touch Association's "Judiciary Findings" file;

(v) The National, State and Regional Touch Associations (in the case of a substantial suspension being imposed).

7. FIRST RIGHT OF APPEAL: (Against a Touch Association's Judiciary Findings)

a) Any person, team, club or referee may appeal against the findings of their Judiciary Committee by issue and service of a Notice of Appeal [Schedule "D"] and which shall be accompanied by an appeal fee in accordance with the provisions of the constitution of the Touch Association (usually $50 in the first instance).

b) Any Notice of Appeal and the appeal fee must be lodged with the Touch Association's designated official within seven days of the service of the Notice of Finding.

8. SUSPENSIONS PENDING AN APPEAL TRIBUNAL HEARING:

Any decision, finding, disqualification, suspension, fine, censure or otherwise shall remain in full force and effect pending the hearing of an appeal, provided that the Appeal Tribunal schedule, and hear the Appeal within 21 days of the receipt of the Notice of Appeal.

Failure to hear the appeal within the prescribed time will nullify any suspension except where the Appeal Tribunal is awaiting information, reports, etc.. from the appellant or other third party. Undue delay by the third party (other than the appellant) may allow the Chairperson to convene the tribunal without the information sought.

9. ACTIONS FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF FIRST APPEAL: (by the Touch Association)

a) An Appeal Tribunal shall be convened to deal with the appeal within 21 days of the receipt of the Notice of Appeal, or within the time lines set in accordance with the constitution of the Touch Association.

(i) The Appeal Tribunal must be provided with copies of all the paperwork (reports, witnesses statements, minutes, etc..) associated with the original Judiciary Hearing, and forward copies of these items to the appellant.

b) A Notice of Appeal Tribunal Hearing [Schedule "E"] shall be issued to all relevant parties along with all documentation relevant to the original Judiciary Hearing.

c) The appellant, witnesses for the appellant and the original report writer/s may all be required at the Appeal Tribunal Hearing, depending upon the nature and grounds of the appeal.

d) The proceedings and findings shall be recorded in the minutes of the Appeal Tribunal Hearing and signed by the Appeal Tribunal Chairperson.

e) A Notice of Finding of the Appeal Tribunal [Schedule "F"] shall be issued and served by the Appeal Tribunal Chairperson, or their delegate, to all relevant parties, as follows:-

(i) The Appellant/s (eg: offending player or official);

(ii) The original Report Writer/s (eg: referee, etc);

(iii) Any third party (eg: as in the case of a protest);

(iv) The Touch Association's "Judiciary Findings" file;

(v) The National, State and Regional Touch Associations (in the case of a substantial suspension being imposed or quashed).

10. SECOND RIGHT OF APPEAL: (against a Touch Association's Appeal Tribunal findings)

a) Any person, team, club or association may appeal against the finding of their Touch Association's Appeal Tribunal, to their Regional Association's Appeal Tribunal, by issue and service of a Notice of Appeal [Schedule "D"] and which shall be accompanied by an appeal fee in accordance with the provisions of the constitution of the Regional Association (usually $100 in the second instance).

b) The Regional Association's Appeal Tribunal shall be comprised of a minimum of three persons who may be members of the Regional Association General Committee; appointed by the Regional Association Executive or General Committee; or such other persons as they see fit to appoint.

c) Such Notice of Appeal shall be accompanied by the appeal fee and must be lodged with the Regional Association Secretary/Administrator within seven days of the service of the Notice of Finding of the Appeal Tribunal of the Touch Association.

11. ACTIONS FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF SECOND APPEAL: (by the Regional Association)

a) The Regional Association's Appeal Tribunal shall be convened to deal with such appeal within 21 days of receipt of the Notice of Appeal, or within the time lines set in accordance with the provisions of the constitution of the Regional Association.

   (i) The Appeal Tribunal must be provided with copies of all the paperwork associated with the first appeal hearing and forward copies of these items to the appellant.

b) A Notice of Appeal Tribunal Hearing [Schedule "E"] shall be issued to all relevant parties along with any requested documents.

c) The appellant, witnesses for the appellant, and the original report writer/s, may all be required at the Appeal Tribunal Hearing.

d) The proceedings and findings shall be recorded in the minutes of the Appeal Tribunal hearing and signed by the Appeal Tribunal Chairperson.

e) A Notice of Finding of the Appeal Tribunal [Schedule "F"] shall be issued and served by the Appeal Tribunal Chairperson, or delegate, to all relevant parties, as follows:-

   (i) The Appellant/s (eg: offending player or official);

   (ii) The original Report Writer/s (eg: referee);

   (iii) Any third party (eg: as in the case of a protest);

   (iv) The Touch Association's "Judiciary Findings" file;

   (v) The National, State and Regional Touch Associations (in the case of a substantial suspension being imposed or quashed).

12. THIRD & **FOURTH RIGHTS OF APPEAL:** (Against a Regional Association Appeal Tribunal Finding and then a State Association Appeal Tribunal.)

a) Any person, team, club, association or region who was a party to the proceedings may appeal against the finding of their Regional Association Appeals Tribunal to the State Association Appeal Tribunal and then against the State Association Appeal Tribunal to the National Association's Appeal Tribunal, by issue and service of a Notice of Appeal [Schedule "D"] and which shall be accompanied by the relevant appeal fee in accordance with the provisions of the constitution of the relevant Association.

b) Such Notice of Appeal shall be accompanied by the appeal fee (usually $200 in the third instance and $400 in the fourth instance) and must be lodged with the relevant Association Executive Director within seven (7) days of the service of the Notice of Finding of the Appeal Tribunal of the Regional or State Association (as the case may be).

13. ACTIONS FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF THIRD OR FOURTH APPEAL:
(by the State or National Association)

a) The State or National Association Appeal Tribunal shall be convened to deal with such appeal within 21 days of receipt of the Notice of Appeal, or the time lines set in accordance with the provisions of the constitution of the relevant Association.

   (i) The Appeal Tribunal must be provided with copies of all the paperwork associated with the previous appeal hearing and forward copies of these items to the appellant.

b) A Notice of Appeal Tribunal hearing [Schedule "E"] shall be issued to all relevant parties along with any requested documents.

c) The appellant, witnesses for the appellant and the original report writer/s may all be required at the Appeal Tribunal Hearing.

d) The proceedings and findings shall be recorded in the minutes of the Appeal Tribunal Hearing and signed by the Appeal Tribunal Chairperson.

e) A Notice of Finding of the Appeal Tribunal [Schedule "F"] shall be issued and served by the Appeal Tribunal Chairperson, or delegate, to all relevant parties, as follows:

   (i) The Appellant/s (eg: offending player or official);

   (ii) The original Report Writer/s (eg: referee);

   (iii) Any third party (eg: as in the case of a protest);

   (iv) The Touch Association's "Judiciary Findings" file;

   (v) The National, State and Regional Touch Associations (in the case of a substantial suspension being imposed or quashed).

14. WHO MAY LODGE AN APPEAL:

Notice of Appeal may be lodged by any party to the proceedings who may be aggrieved by the Judiciary or Appeal Tribunal decision. Any party lodging an appeal thereby becomes the appellant.

15. KEEPING A JUDICIARY ACTIONS FILE:

A Touch Association shall keep a record of all Judiciary hearings and Appeal Tribunal Hearings on a special file set aside for that purpose. Information to be stored on this file should include:

a) Judiciary Actions Register (with each new Judiciary added progressively);

b) Copy of written Incident Report or Protest;

c) Copy of Notice of Judiciary Hearing;

d) The minutes of the Judiciary Hearing, statements, tape recordings, etc;

e) Copy of Notice of Findings of the Judiciary;

f) Copy of Notice of Appeal;

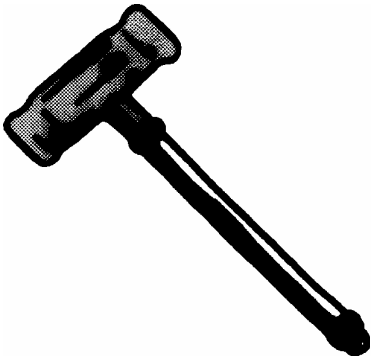
g) Copy of Notice of Appeal Tribunal Hearing;

h) The Minutes of the Appeal Tribunal Hearing, statements, tape recordings, etc.. i) Copy of Notice of Findings of the Appeal Tribunal;

j) Any Notices issued by Regional, State or National Associations in relation to Judiciary Actions undertaken by the Touch Association;

k) Any other information relevant to Judiciary actions undertaken by the Touch Association.

SECTION 2



Actions
During the
Judiciary Hearing

Flowchart

Conducting the Judiciary Hearing

Summon the relevant

↓

Convene Judiciary Hearing
Display fairness and impartiality
Ensure the interests of natural justice are observed

↓

<u>Hearing Procedures</u>
1. Announce the right of attendance of all parties
2. Reading the report
3. Hearing further details on the report
- Allowing questioning of report writer
4. Hearing response from subject of the report
- Allow questioning of subject person

↓

5. Decision Time
- Findings of fact
- Penalty

↓

6. Notify all relevant parties

HEARING PROCEDURES,

The following hearing procedures shall generally apply, but may be amended by the Chairperson, depending on the circumstances and nature of the issue before the hearing.

1. ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE RIGHT OF ATTENDANCE OF ALL PARTIES:

a) The Chairperson shall open the hearing, and announce

(i) the reasons for the convening of the hearing;

(ii) the names of all the parties to the hearing; and

(iii) the right of attendance of each party, as provided for in section 3 of this book.

2. READING THE REPORT:

a) The Chairperson shall read the report/s and provide copies to the relevant person/s, for their perusal, if they have not already received copies of same.

b) In the event of two (or more) reports emerging from the same incident, the Chairperson may consider hearing them conjointly. Submissions may be sought from the report writer/s, subject person/s and the Judiciary members on this issue, however the Chairperson's decision on this matter is final.

c) The Chairperson shall ask the subject person/s whether the plea is "Guilty" or "Not Guilty".

3. IF THE PLEA IS "GUILTY":

a) The subject person/s (or advocate) may make a submission by way of explanation of the circumstances surrounding the incident, or with a view to mitigation of penalty.

b) Depending on the nature of this submission, the subject person may be subject to questioning by the report writer/s' advocate or the Judiciary members.

c) Finalise the hearing, as provided for in Rule 5 of this section.

4. IF THE PLEA IS "NOT GUILTY":

First: Presenting the Case.

1. The Chairperson shall ensure that all intending witnesses are excluded from the hearing.

2. The report writer/s shall be called to expand upon their written report and make any further explanation of the circumstances so desired. The report writer/s may be assisted by their advocate at this time.

3. The report writer/s shall then be subject to questioning by the subject person/s (or advocate). The Judiciary Chairperson must ensure that questions only are asked, and the subject person/s (or advocate) does not merely make statements.

4. The report writer/s shall then be subjected to questioning by the Judiciary members, through the Chairperson.

5. The report writer/s may choose to call one or more witnesses to provide further information before the hearing. In such a case, the above three steps are repeated. Each witness must retire from the hearing prior to a subsequent witness giving evidence.

Second: Presenting the Defence.

1. The subject person/s shall then be given the opportunity to provide information before the hearing and refute any items from the incident report, including any new or additional information provided by the report writer/s during their further explanation. If that person accepts this opportunity, assistance by their advocate is permitted.

2. The subject person shall then be subject to questioning by the report writer/s (or advocate). The Judiciary Chairperson must ensure that questions only are asked, and the report writer/s (or advocate) does not merely make statements.

3. The witness shall then be subject to questioning by the Judiciary members, through the Chairperson.

4. The subject person/s may choose to call one or more witnesses to provide further information before the hearing. In such a case, the above three (3) steps are repeated. Each witness must retire from the hearing prior to a subsequent witness giving information.

5. DECISION TIME:

 # After hearing all the Information, the Chairperson shall now ask all parties to retire from the hearing until recalled for the notification of the findings of the Judiciary.

a) The Judiciary members shall discuss the information and information presented before them in order to reach agreement on a decision.

b) If a decision can be reached, each member of the Judiciary shall have a primary vote with the Chairperson having both a primary and a casting vote.

c) If a decision cannot be reached, the hearing may be adjourned, and the Chairperson will announce a time and date for the reconvening of the hearing. This type of an adjournment would only occur in extenuating circumstances, such as the Judiciary requiring further information or clarification from a party not in attendance at the hearing.

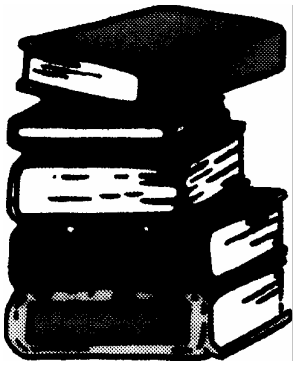
 # The hearing shall reconvene with all in attendance, and the Chairperson shall announce the findings of fact and, if relevant, any penalty imposed.

6. NOTIFICATION OF FINDINGS OF THE JUDICIARY:

a) The Chairperson shall provide, or cause to be provided, written notification of the findings of any hearing to all relevant persons. Such written notification must be delivered to each relevant person (or their delegate) within seven days of the hearing.

b) Failure to have such written notification delivered to the subject person/s of the hearing shall not obviate any penalty imposed, as the findings of the Judiciary are advised at the end of the hearing. Such failure to have received written notification may not be grounds for consideration should a suspended player fail to comply with such suspension.

SECTION 3



Procedural Issues of the Judiciary Hearing

1. LOCATION:

All hearings conducted by the Judiciary shall be conducted at a suitable location as decided by the Chairperson but in an environment that is non-threatening to any of the parties.

2. TIMING:

All hearings conducted by the Judiciary shall be conducted at a suitable time that is convenient to all parties but no sooner than three clear days from the relevant incident.

3. ATTENDANCE:

Persons permitted to be present during the hearing, or any part of it, shall be as decided upon by the Chairperson depending on the circumstances of the matter. Such persons may be:

a) The **Judiciary members**: whose responsibility it is to hear all the relevant information, make decisions of fact and decide on any appropriate action. The number of persons appointed to the Judiciary shall be at the discretion of the Chairperson, depending on the circumstances or as provided for in the Association constitution. The appointed members of the Judiciary shall have right of attendance at all times.

b) **Report writer/s**: who have been called to explain their report and provide further information at the hearing, if required. The report writer/s shall have right of attendance as allowed by the Chairperson.

An advocate for the report writer/s (optional) may appear to assist the person/s who wrote the report. The advocate shall have right of attendance as allowed to the report writer/s.

c) **Subject person/s:** who have been cited to appear at the hearing. The subject person/s shall have right of attendance as allowed by the Chairperson.

An advocate for the subject person/s (optional) may appear to represent and assist the person/s cited to appear at the hearing. The advocate shall have right of attendance as allowed to the subject person/s.

d) **Guests/observers:** who are persons invited by the Chairperson to attend in an official capacity, but who take no part in the proceedings. The guests/observers shall have right of attendance as allowed by the chairperson.

e) **Technical officials:** who are experts in a particular discipline invited by the Chairperson to attend in an official capacity, to answer questions on technical matters that may arise during the hearing. The technical officials shall have right of attendance as allowed by the Chairperson.

It is the responsibility and within the absolute authority of the Chairperson to decide who may appear at a hearing as an advocate. It is recommended that persons possessing legal qualifications should only be used as advocates at Judiciary Hearings or Appeal Tribunals if a person possessing legal qualifications is on the Judiciary Panel or Appeal Committee.

In the case that the subject person/s or report writer/s possess legal qualifications then the Judiciary or Appeal Tribunal should include a member who possesses such qualifications.

4. RECORDING OF EVENTS:

Any tape recording or video recording of events during the hearing shall be at the discretion of the Chairperson. In the absence of any request being made to tape record or video record the events, it shall be deemed that no authority or permission has been granted.

5. NATURE OF THE HEARING:

a) All members of the Judiciary are required to be objective rather than subjective, and make fair decisions based solely on the information presented before them. The Judiciary should adopt the view that "a valid complaint merits further investigation" and proceed simply by hearing from and asking questions of. the report writer/s and the subject person/s, by way of further investigating the matter.

b) The report writer/s should not have to carry the onus of proof (ie: prove the complaint they have lodged). Neither should the subject person/s have to prove they are innocent just because a complaint has been lodged against them. By this it is meant to clarify that no particular person need assume the role of prosecutor nor defendant (ie: the report writer/s and the subject person/s are to appear as witnesses to the incident under investigation).

c) The standard of proof in all hearings shall be on the "balance of probabilities", which simply means that the Judiciary members, after hearing all the evidence, should be satisfied that "more likely than not" the alleged offence was committed.

6. NON-APPEARANCE OF PERSONS:

a) On all occasions that the Judiciary is convened, the report writer/s, whose report has initiated the hearing, shall be expected to attend and provide further information when required. If that person or any other member of the Touch Association is served with written notice to appear, then such appearance shall be deemed compulsory.

b) If such person fail to appear, and satisfactory proof of service of the notice to appear is given to the Chairperson and no communication has been received by the Chairperson as to the reason for such non-appearance, a period of 10 minutes shall elapse before:

   (i) In any case the non-appearance is by the report-writer/s or the subject person/s, the hearing may continue in the absence of those persons. Alternatively, if the Chairperson considers that the appearance of the report-writer/s or subject person/s is necessary and desirable, the report-writer/s or subject person/s may be suspended until such time as they appear before the Judiciary.

   (ii) In any case the non-appearance is by any other member of the Touch Association who has been called to provide information before the Judiciary, the hearing may continue in the absence of those persons. Alternatively, if the Chairperson considers that the appearance of those persons is necessary and desirable, they may be suspended until such time as they appear before the Judiciary.

7. ADJOURNMENTS:

Should any situation arise where the hearing can not proceed in accordance with these rules the Chairperson may adjourn such hearing for a period deemed suitable and appropriate. In such an instance, the Chairperson may declare that any likely period of suspension shall be held in abeyance until the hearing is completed.

8. INFORMATION SUPPLIED AT A HEARING:

a) All persons attending a hearing and supplying information to the Judiciary are expected to provide such information in a truthful and respectful manner. Any person considered to be deliberately disrespectful or supplying false or misleading information during a hearing shall be liable to any of the penalties as contained in section 4, rule 5 of this book.

b) No person attending and providing information at a hearing shall be compelled to supply such information which is likely to be incriminating.

9. INACCURACIES IN REPORTS:

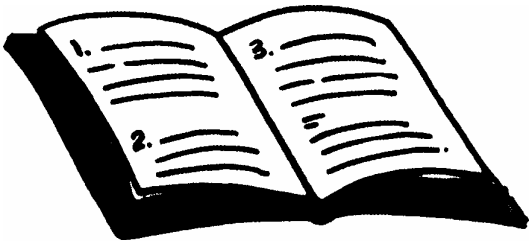
a) If it is discovered during a hearing that any inaccuracy occurs in a written report, the Chairperson shall have the discretionary power to enable such inaccuracy to be rectified by way of verbal information being heard.

b) If it is apparent to the Chairperson that the subject person/s are disadvantaged or the functions of the Judiciary are jeopardised, the Chairperson shall grant an adjournment of the hearing, as the Chairperson sees fit.

10. VIDEO EVIDENCE:

If any party to a hearing wishes to provide information by way of a video presentation, such evidence shall be permissible at the discretion of the Chairperson. The onus of providing suitable viewing equipment such as a video cassette recorder or television set shall lie with the person desirous of presenting such information before the hearing.

SECTION 4



Regulations Governing the Judiciary Committee and Appeal Tribunal

1. AIM:

The aim of the Judiciary shall be to provide a fair and impartial tribunal to ensure the highest ideals of sportsmanship and fair play are adhered to for the benefit of all members of the Touch Association.

2. FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES:

a) To inquire into, hear, adjudicate upon and determine any charge or complaint made against any member, which is the subject of a report made for a breach of the ATA Playing Rules of Touch and/or the constitution and by-laws and/or any other regulations of the Touch Association.

b) To ensure that the principles of natural justice and fair play are adhered to at all times, and the spirit of the game and the good name of the sport of Touch are constantly observed.

c) To adjudicate upon matters presented before it and make decisions in accordance with the concepts of administrative law.

d) To impose penalties which, in its opinion are fair and just and in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of the Touch Association.

e) To report regularly to the General Committee of the Touch Association on all decisions made, actions taken and penalties imposed during the exercise of its functions and duties.

3. MEMBERSHIP OF THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE:

a) The Judiciary Committee shall consist of a Chairperson and a number of members who shall be duly elected or appointed in accordance with the constitution of the Touch Association.

b) Where the Touch Association constitution does not provide for this, then the members of the Judiciary Committee shall be appointed by the Chairperson, from a list of persons nominated by each club/team of the Touch Association. The total number of persons appointed to form the Judiciary Committee shall be at the discretion of the Chairperson.

c) The Chairperson shall hold office for the same term as the Association's elected officials and may be re-appointed for subsequent terms of office. Notwithstanding the forgoing, a Touch Association may appoint additional Chairpersons as it sees fit.

4. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO SERVE ON A JUDICIARY HEARING:

a) Unless otherwise provided for in the Constitution of the Touch Association, three persons from the Judiciary Committee shall be appointed by the Chairperson to serve on a Judiciary for each single hearing. But these persons must not be from the same team as any person appearing before it to answer to any charge or report, or from any team whose member is the author of any such report, or any person who has a vested interest in the matter.

b) The Chairperson shall serve on the Judiciary for all hearings to ensure the maintenance of consistency.

c) In any case where the subject person of the report is female, at least one female shall be a member of the Judiciary for that hearing. The Chairperson must at all times be aware of equity issues and may need to adjust the composition of the Judiciary to take such matters into consideration, including instances involving various groups regarded as disadvantaged persons.

5. POWERS AND AUTHORITIES OF THE JUDICIARY:

a) The Judiciary shall have the power and authority to require any Association member to appear before it in order to provide such information which, in the opinion of the Chairperson, is necessary to enable the Judiciary to fulfil its functions and duties.

b) Advice of the requirement for any person to appear before the Judiciary shall be in writing and delivered to that person, or appointed delegate, at least three days in advance of the hearing.

c) Persons not served with any notice to appear, may appear on their own volition and, only at the discretion of the Chairperson. They may give evidence and answer questions before the hearing for the benefit and information of the Judiciary.

d) As should be contained in the constitution of the Touch Association, the Judiciary shall have the power to impose all or any of the following penalties on any class of member:

   (i) Exclusion from any games or Association grounds or meetings or other events for any specified number of matches or specifies time period;

   (ii) Monetary fines of any specified amounts payable within any specified period of time;

   (iii) Forfeiture of any competition and/or other points as specified;

   (iv) A combination of any of the above or any other disciplinary action as considered appropriate and in accordance with the objects of the Association.

e) In any case where the Judiciary sees fit to impose all or any of the above penalties, the members shall take into account the seriousness of the circumstances and:

   (i) The level of punishment that should be imposed;

   (ii) The need to remove the subject person/s from the Touch scene for the protection of other members;

   (iii) The necessity to set a level of penalties to act as an example and deterrent to other persons;

   (iv) The implications on those who witnessed the incident; and

   (v) A desire to rehabilitate the subject person/s.

6. POWERS OF THE CHAIRPERSON:

a) Upon receipt of a report, the Chairperson shall have discretionary power to ensure that:

(i) The report has been communicated to the Chairperson via the Touch official who has been appointed by the General Committee of the Touch Association as the receiving authority for such matters; and

(ii) The report contains information of such a nature that the convening of the Judiciary is justified and warranted; and

(iii) The report is not vexatious, frivolous or incompetent; and

(iv) The report relates to a matter where the discretionary powers and functions of the Judiciary are necessary in order to determine an appropriate outcome.

b) In any instance where the Chairperson receives a report indicating that a referee has dismissed a player from the field of play for the remainder of the game, the Chairperson shall have discretionary power to allow the full impact of Rule 17.3 (b) of the TFA Playing Rules to have full force and effect.

In such an instance, the subject player shall incur a two match suspension, without the necessity of the matter being placed before a hearing by the Judiciary. However, the subject player still retains the right to appeal against such a decision.

The term "two match suspension" refers to the period of time it takes for two matches to be completed in the division from which the player was suspended. A bye does not count as a match completed.

c) In all hearings conducted by the Judiciary, the Chairperson shall have a primary and a casting vote. All other members shall have one vote each.

7. INTERFERENCE WITH FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES:

a) In any case where the independence and impartiality of the Judiciary are in any manner interfered with by any person, the Chairperson shall be obliged to present a report on the circumstances and manner of interference at the next General Committee Meeting of the Touch Association.

b) Any person so reported by the Chairperson shall be called upon to answer to the charge before a meeting of the General Committee. Any person found guilty, by a majority vote of the delegates present, of any interference whatsoever shall be subject to the imposition of all or any of the penalties set out in Rule 5 of this Section.

8. MEMBERSHIP OF THE APPEAL TRIBUNAL:

a) The Appeal Tribunal of the Touch Association shall consist of at least three but not more than five members of the Management Committee who have not been a member of the relevant Judiciary, a witness in the original Judiciary hearing or anyone otherwise compromised in the original hearing. If there are insufficient members of the Management Committee available, the President may appoint other members from the General Committee to the Appeal Tribunal to hear and determine the appeal.

b) The Appeal Tribunal of the Regional, State and National Touch Associations shall consist of such persons as provided for in their Constitutions. Where the Constitutions do not provide for this then the Appeal Tribunal shall be appointed in accordance with the above rule.

9. CONDUCT OF THE APPEAL TRIBUNAL HEARING

Appeal Tribunals should be conducted along similar lines to those set out in section 2 of this book with the exception that the appellant shall be heard first, then the original report writer/s, then the original Judiciary Chairperson (if deemed necessary).

10. POWERS AND AUTHORITIES OF THE APPEAL TRIBUNAL:

a) All the powers and authorities of the Judiciary as provided in rule 5 of this section shall also apply to an Appeal Tribunal.

b) Upon hearing any appeal, the Appeal Tribunal has the power to decide to:

   (i) Increase, decrease or accept any such penalties as already imposed; and/or impose any such new penalties as outlined in rule 5 of this section;

   (ii) Remit the matter in dispute to be re-heard by the original Judiciary, or any subsequent Appeal Tribunal;

   (iii) Allow the appellant to have legal representation on the hearing of the appeal, and/or have legal counsel present to assist the Appeal Tribunal.

11. APPEAL FEES:

a) In any case where an appeal has been upheld by an Appeal Tribunal, the appeal fee (received by the body responsible for conducting that particular appeal) shall be repaid in full to the appellant.

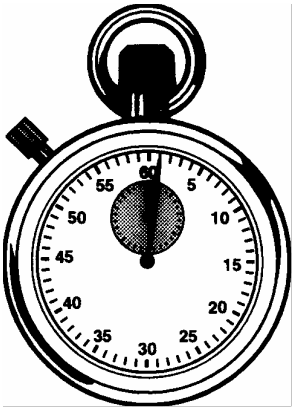
b) In any case where an appeal has not been upheld by an Appeal Tribunal, the appeal fee (received by the body responsible for conducting that particular appeal) shall be forfeited in full by the appellant.

c) In any case where a 2nd, 3rd or 4th Appeal (conducted by a higher body) is upheld, all formerly forfeited appeal fees shall be repaid in full to the appellant.

12. AMENDMENTS TO REGULATIONS:

Once adopted to form part of a Touch Association by-laws, these regulations may be amended in any manner considered appropriate at a duly constituted meeting of the General Committee of the Touch Association.

SECTION 5



List of
Suggested Penalties
(Provided as a guideline only)

TERMS and CONDITIONS of the SUGGESTED PENALTIES

1. The list of suggested penalties are provided as a guideline only:

The following list of suggested penalties are provided as a guideline to assist the Judiciary in their role of deciding upon suitable penalties that may need to be imposed upon any Association member who may be the subject of any matter brought before them.

2. Minimum and Maximum Penalties:

A minimum suggested penalty and a maximum suggested penalty have been included with each of the infringements listed. The spread between the minimum and maximum suggested penalties has deliberately been made wide to provide a large range of possible penalties. Judiciary Committees must not be 'fence sitters' who continually opt for either the minimum penalty, or the maximum penalty, or main-line somewhere in between these two extremes. As each Judiciary Hearing must be judged upon its own merits, it is highly likely that individual cases of what might appear to be 'similar' infringements will actually receive very different penalties due to the possibility of differing circumstances surrounding the incidents.

3. Each Individual case MUST be judged upon its own merits:

As each individual case shall be judged entirely upon its own merits or demerits, a Judiciary upon hearing all the evidence presented may decide to waive the imposition of any penalty, or award a lesser or greater penalty than the suggested minimum or maximums listed herein. The exact penalty to be imposed in all instances will be at the sole discretion of the Judiciary hearing the matter.

4. The reason for imposing penalties:

Any penalty that may be imposed by any Judiciary is done for the express purpose of discouraging any unacceptable behaviors from any Association members, either on or off the field of play.

5. The scope of a penalty:

A suspension received by a player does not necessarily prevent that player from participating as a referee, coach or other official (unless the Association by-laws stipulate otherwise). A Judiciary may however also suspend a player from any other form of participation if it sees fit to do so. Alternatively, a Judiciary may impose additional conditions to a playing suspension stipulating that the player must officiate as a referee during the term of their suspension.

6. Good Behaviour Bonds:

It is suggested that all penalties handed down by a Judiciary be accompanied by a 'good behaviour' bond. All good behaviour bonds would refer to a time period as decided by the Judiciary who would take into consideration the severity of the incident and/or how frequently the subject person/s appear before the Judiciary.

7. Provocation Is no excuse for Retaliation:

In any instance of misconduct, provocation used as an excuse for retaliation will not be accepted as an adequate explanation of, or excuse for, the unacceptable behaviour.

8. List of Suggested Penalties: *(Provided as guidelines only)*

For Infringements against another Player

a) **Bad sporting behaviour (ie: calling phantoms):** It is recommended that any action considered not to be in the spirit of the game of Touch should receive a penalty.

Suggested suspension: minimum 1 game ...maximum 12 games 13 months).

b) **Condescending language or signals (ie: sledging):** It is recommended that speaking in a condescending manner, or using condescending signals towards another participant should receive a penalty.

Suggested suspension: minimum 1 game ...maximum 12 games (3 months).

c) **Offensive language or signals (ie: swearing):** It is recommended that the use of offensive language or signals towards another participant should receive a penalty.

Suggested suspension: minimum 2 games...maximum 24 games (6 months).

d) **Deliberately pushing, grabbing or tripping:** It is recommended that deliberately pushing, grabbing or tripping another participant should receive a penalty.

Suggested suspension: minimum 3 games ... maximum 48 games (12 months),

e) **Deliberately using an elbow, forearm or shoulder:** It is recommended that deliberately using an elbow, forearm or shoulder on another participant should receive a penalty.

Suggested suspension: minimum 4 games .., maximum suspended for life.

f) **Deliberately striking, with an open hand (ie: slapping):** A slap is deemed to be the connection of a slap delivered with the intent of connecting. It is recommended that deliberately striking, with an open hand, another participant should receive a penalty.

Suggested suspension: minimum 4 games ... maximum 48 games (12 months).

g) **Deliberately striking, with a closed flat, (ie: punching):** A punch is deemed to be the connection of a punch thrown with the intent of connecting. It is recommended that deliberately striking, with a closed fist, another participant should receive a penalty.

Suggested suspension: minimum 6 games .., maximum suspended for life.

h) **Participating in a fight:** A fight is deemed to be the connection of one or more punches thrown by two or more participants. In any fight, both the instigator/s and the retaliator/s shall both be treated in an equal manner. It is recommended that anyone participating in a fight should receive a penalty.

Suggested suspension: minimum 8 games ... maximum suspended for life.

9. List of Suggested Penalties: *(Provided as guidelines only)*

For Infringements against a Referee or Official

a) **Bad sporting behaviour (ie: continual backchat):** It is recommended that any action considered not to be in the spirit of the game of Touch should receive a penalty.

Suggested suspension: minimum 2 games ...maximum 24 games l6 months).

b) **Condescending language or signals (ie: sledging):** It is recommended that speaking in a *condescending* manner, or using condescending signals towards a referee or official should receive a penalty.

Suggested suspension: minimum 2 games ...maximum 24 games (6 months).

c) **Offensive language or signals (ie: swearing):** It is recommended that using offensive language or signals towards a referee or official should receive a penalty.

Suggested suspension: minimum 4 games ... maximum 48 games (12 months),

d) **Deliberately pushing, grabbing or tripping:** It is recommended that deliberately pushing, grabbing or tripping a referee or official should receive a penalty.

Suggested suspension : minimum 6 games ... maximum suspended for life.

e) **Deliberately using an elbow, forearm or shoulder:** It is recommended that deliberately using an elbow, forearm or shoulder on a referee or official should receive a penalty.

Suggested suspension : minimum 8 games ... maximum suspended for life.

f) **Deliberately striking, with an open hand (ie: slapping): A** slap is deemed to be the connection of a slap delivered with the intent of connecting. It is recommended that deliberately striking, with an open hand, a referee or official should receive a penalty.

Suggested suspension : minimum 8 games ... maximum suspended for life.

g) **Deliberately striking, with a closed flat, (le: punching):** A punch is deemed to be the connection of a punch thrown with the intent of connecting. It is recommended that deliberately striking, with a closed fist, a referee of official should receive a penalty.

Suggested suspension : minimum 12 games ... maximum suspended for life.

h) **Participating in a fight:** A fight is deemed to be the connection of one or more punches thrown by two or more participants. In any fight, both the instigator/s and the retaliator/s shall both be treated in the exact same manner. It is recommended that anyone participating in a fight with a referee or official should receive a penalty.

Suggested suspension : minimum 16 games ... maximum suspended for life.

10. List of Suggested Penalties: *(Provided as guidelines only)*

For other infringements

a) Any player who participates in a tournament in breach of the Rules of Eligibility for that Tournament should receive a penalty.

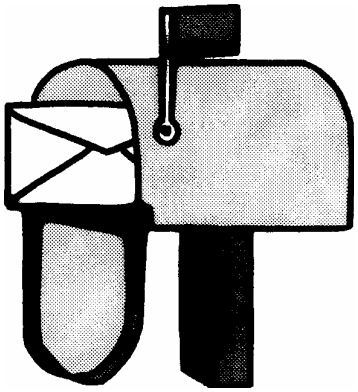
Suggested suspension : minimum suspended from competing in the remainder of that tournament ... maximum 24 games (6 months).

b) Any player who participates in a game of Touch whilst currently serving a suspension shall be cited by either the Association the player was suspended from; or the Association the player was found participating in. It is recommended that anyone participating in a game of Touch whilst under suspension should have the original suspension increased.

Suggested increase to be added to the remainder of the original suspension: minimum half the original suspension ... maximum the full original suspension.

c) It is recommended that any player who is continually dismissed from the field of play for infringements that would normally warrant no more than the automatic two week suspension, should be summoned to appear before the Judiciary to show cause why they should not receive an increased penalty.

SECTION 6



Schedules
Reports, Notices & Findings

Touch Football Australia Schedule A (i)

INCIDENT REPORT

Game Report is on: ..... V.....
Venue: Field Number: Division: ……Grade:
Report Writer: ..... Club/Team: .....
Signature:……. Date:……
Person Cited: .....Club/Team: .....
Person Cited: .....Club/Team: .....
Person Cited: .....Club/Team: .....

Charge: An Infringement under Rule 17 of the TFA Playing Rules of Touch.

Reason for the Report (Statement of facts surrounding the incident):
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

OFFICE USE ONLY

Report Received By: …… (Touch Official)
Signature:……. Date: … *1…1…*Time: ……

All Reports must be passed on to the Judiciary Chairperson for assessment.

Assessment on Report: NOTED / ACTIONED / JUDICIARY HEARING
(Delete one)

Action taken:……
Chairperson's Signature:…… Date: ……/……../…….

Touch Football Australia Schedule A (ii)

(OPTIONAL)
REFEREES' INCIDENT REPORT

Game Report is on: ……**V:** ……
Venue:……..**Field Number:**……**Division:** ……**Grade:** …..
Report Writer: …… **Club/Team:**……..
Signature: …… **Date: / /**
Person Cited: ……. **Club/Team:** …….
Person Cited: …… **Club/Team:** …….
Person Cited: ……**Club/Team:** …….

Charge: An Infringement under Rule 17 of the TFA Playing Rules of Touch.

Reason for the Report (Please tick appropriate box. If more than one, tick accordingly):

Against another player	**Against the Referee**
Bad sporting behavior (ie: phantoms)	**Bad sporting behavior (ie: backchat)**
Condescending language or signals (sledging)	**Condescending language or signals**
Offensive Language (swearing)	**Offensive Language (swearing)**
Deliberately pushing, tripping or grabbing	**Deliberately pushing, tripping or grabbing**
Deliberately using elbow, shoulder, etc.	**Deliberately using elbow, shoulder, etc.**
Deliberately striking, open hand (slapping)	**Deliberately striking (slapping)**
Deliberately striking, closed fist (punching)	**Deliberately striking (punching)**
Participating in a fight	**Participating in a fight**

(Optional) Further statement of facts surrounding the Incident:
……
……
……
……

OFFICE USE ONLY

Report Received By: …… (Touch Official)
Signature:…… Date: ……/……../…….. Time: ……

All Reports must be passed on to the Judiciary Chairperson for assessment,

Assessment on Report: NOTED / ACTIONED / JUDICIARY HEARING
(Delete one)

Action taken: ……
Chairperson's Signature: ……Date: …… / …….. / …….

PROTEST

Game Protest is on:……**V**……

Venue:…….. **Field Number:**…….

Division: …… **Grade:** …….

Protest Writer:…… **Club/Team:** ……

Position: ……**Signature:** ……

Date: ……./……./……

Charge: Misconduct under Rule 17 of the TFA Playing Rules of Touch.

Reason for the Protest (Statement of facts surrounding the incident):

……
……
……
……
……
……
……
……
……
……
……
……
……

OFFICE USE ONLY

Protest Received By: ……**(Touch Official)**

Signature: …….. **Date:** …../……/……**Time:** …….

All Protests must be passed on to the Judiciary Chairperson for assessment

Decision on Protest: **DISMISSED / UPHELD (Delete One)**
Action Taken: ……
Chairperson's Signature: ……**Date:** ……../ ……/……

NOTICE OF JUDICIARY HEARING

Date: ……/……/…….

To: …….

Of: …….

Re: JUDICIARY HEARING

You are hereby advised that you are requested to appear before the Judiciary for the hearing and determination in relation to the following:-

Charge: An Infringement under Rule 17 of the TFA Playing Rules of Touch.

Incident Report: a copy is attached / is available for your perusal (strike out as applicable) upon application to the Association Secretary / Administrator.

Brief Statement of the Incident:(To be completed if copy of Incident Report is not attached.)
……
……
……

Should you wish to provide any evidence, this evidence must be called or submitted at the above hearing. Evidence which may be submitted includes Referees' Reports; Protests; Association Reports; Club and/or Team Reports; Player Reports; Witnesses Reports; etc.

Date of Hearing:. ……Time:……..

Venue: ……. ……
……

Judiciary Chairman: …….

Signed by: …….

NOTICE OF FINDING of the JUDICIARY

Date: ...../ ...../.....

To: .....

Of: .....

Re: Judiciary Hearing on the matter of: .....
.....

Judiciary Findings and/or Decision:.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

Further Recommendations: .....
.....
.....

Names of Individuals who sat on this Judiciary: .....
.....

Judiciary Chairman: .....

Signed by: .....

NOTICE OF APPEAL

Date: …… /. ……/…….

To: The Executive Committee

Of: …… Touch Association

Re: APPEAL

I / we hereby appeal against the findings and / or decisions of the Judiciary which were made on the following Date: …… /. ……/…….

Grounds of Appeal: ……
……
……
……
……
……
……
……

The evidence to be called or submitted is: ……
……
……
……
……
……
……
……

Enclosed is a - cheque / money order - for the amount of $…….in payment of the Appeal Fee, as required by the Touch Association.

Appellant's name: …….. Club/Team: ……

Appellant's name: …….. Club/Team: ……

Signature / s: …… Date: ……

NOTICE OF APPEAL TRIBUNAL HEARING

Date: ...../...../.....

To: .....

Of: .....

Re: APPEAL TRIBUNAL HEARING

You are hereby advised that you are requested to appear before the Appeal Tribunal for the hearing and determination in relation to the following:-

Statement of Appeal:
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

Should you wish to provide any evidence, this evidence must be called or submitted at the above hearing. Evidence which may be submitted includes any further evidence in relation to the original Judiciary Hearing.

Date of Hearing: ...../ ...../ .....Time: .....

Venue: .....
.....

Appeal Tribunal Chairman: .....

Signed by: .....

Touch Football Australia Schedule F

NOTICE OF FINDING of the APPEAL TRIBUNAL

Date: ……/ …….../……..

To: ……

Of: ……

Re: Appeal Tribunal Hearing on the matter of:
……
……
……
……
……
……

Appeal Tribunal Findings and/or Decision:
……
……
……
……
……
……

Further Recommendations:
……
……
……
……
……

Names of Individuals who sat on this Appeal Tribunal:
……
……
……
……
……

Appeal Tribunal Chairman: ……

Signed by: ……

JUDICIARY ACTIONS REGISTER

DatePerson	Cited	Team	Report Writer	Charge	Action Taken

Minutes of: Judiciary Hearing

Held on the ……/……/…….

Present:
……
……

Persons Cited:
……
……

Statement of the incident:
……
……
……
……
……
……

Notes:
……
……
……
……
……
……
……
……
……
……
……

Decision:
……
……
……
……
……
……
……
……
……
……
……

Chairperson's Signature……Date:……/……/……