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Game Management Standards for TCNAI Premier League 2024

- Update to World Netball Rules has excluded cautions from the game.

Proactive Advice

- Umpires are now able to give “proactive advice” which is specific feedback to a player to change a certain action or behaviour
 - o Umpires have done this in the past
 - o Example: “goal defence, adjust as your distance is too short”
 - o Example: “wing defence, wait for the centre pass whistle before you enter the centre third”
- Proactive advice needs to be clear about what action needs to be changed and why
- Reserved for low level incidents that do not endanger a player's safety.

Escalating Sanctions & advancing play

- Umpires are now able to escalate a sanction from a free pass to a penalty pass
- Umpires can advance a sanction up to half a third, including to inside of the goal circle
- A penalty pass is moved to the new area, and the player out of play remains out of play behind the boundary line
- Actions to warrant advancement of play:
 - o Delaying play
 - o Intentional obstruction, contact, offside, breaking (can be interpreted as delaying play)
 - o Intimidation
 - o Repeated infringing
 - o Disputed ruling
- Example: “wing defence, that is intentional offside, I am advancing a PENALTY PASS to this point of the goal circle”
- Communication of escalations and advancements will most likely shorten towards to end of the season as players and umpires become more familiar with rule changes
- Reserved for low level incidents that do not endanger a player's safety.

Umpires and Captains

- It is recommended that the next step in game management is for umpires to speak with the captain of the team of the subjected player. The umpires can hold time to advise the captain of the team which actions or behaviours are not supporting the rules of netball appropriately. It is then the captain's responsibility to relay this to their team member.
 - o This is to be a quick process – if time is held, only minimal time will be held
 - o May be performed during a time-out or break in play
 - o If warranted during an advancement or escalation, the umpire makes also advise the captain that the action/behaviour is to be ceased.
- Example of centre as team captain: “TCNAI Centre, I have advised the goalkeeper to be three feet before defending the shooter, however, the goalkeeper is continuing this action. Can you please advise them that this action cannot continue.”

Warning

- Warnings can be issued for an individual player:
 - o With multiple advanced or escalated sanctions
 - o If a player has not followed proactive advice
 - o If a team has accumulated multiple advanced or escalated sanctions, a warning will be given to the next player who infringes requiring an advanced or escalated sanction.
 - o In all instances of unsporting behaviour
 - Retaliation
 - Abusive behaviour
 - All actions contrary to good sportsmanship including 'Umpire Dissent' - verbally or visually challenging an umpire's decision
- Warnings can also be issued without prior game management steps
 - o Example: wing defence intentionally obstructs a wing attack feeding to the circle with 20 seconds of play left in the match of a close game
- One warning per player per match

Suspension

- A player can be suspended following a warning.
 - o Continuing to engage in unfair or unsporting behaviour or behaviour resulting in warning
- A player can also be suspended without a warning, where the action performed by the player warrants a suspension
 - o Dangerous play – contact endangering player safety
 - This includes but is not limited to any action resulting in head and/or neck contact or contact to the head and/or neck with any part of the playing area including goalposts and the ground.
- A player is suspended is required to sit next to the reserve umpire for 2 minutes of playing time. They are allowed to return to a team bench during a time-out or interval in play.
- The player's position is left vacant for the full 2 minutes, unless it is the position of a centre in which another player on court is required to fill the centre position, leaving their original position vacant.
- The suspended player is then permitted to rejoin the court, including the centre position if applicable in which time is held for both players to return to their original positions (tactical change).
- One suspension per player per match

Ordering Off

- A player can be ordered off following a suspension
 - o Continuing to engage in unfair or unsporting behaviour or behaviour resulting in suspension
- A player can be ordered off without a suspension given.
 - o Intentional or highly reckless acts of dangerous play endangering the safety of other players
 - Physical abuse – i.e. punching or kicking
 - A very late contact particularly with head involvement
- A player ordered off is to have no further involvement in the game.



- The player ordered off is to sit with the reserve umpire for 4 minutes of playing time. Once the 4 minutes is complete, this player can return to the team bench and the players position can be filled by another player on the team bench.
- If the player ordered off holds the position of a centre, another player on court is required to fill the centre position, leaving their original position vacant.
- Once the 4 minutes of playing time has been completed, a tactical change can be called for the player to return to their original playing position and for the new player to take the centre position.

Bench Officials

- During the match, team officials and bench players are to remain in their team bench area. Coaches are not permitted to walk the length of or enter the court.
- Bench players are allowed to leave the area to warm up, however, should not impact the umpire's ability to move or pose as an obstruction to players on court.
- Umpires will politely advise team officials or players to return to their bench area.
- Umpires are also permitted to award a free pass for bench movement which is to be taken where the ball was when play stopped.
- Team officials and bench players are not permitted to
 - o Criticise the umpire or their decision
 - o Use offensive, insulting or abusive language or gestures
 - o Encourage foul play
- A penalty pass for bench behaviour may be awarded to the opposition where the ball was when play has stopped. No player is required to stand out of play for this penalty pass.
- Umpires may issue a warning to a specific person or to the team bench. If there is no response or change of behaviour after a warning has been issued, umpires may request for event organisers to remove those involved from the court for the remainder of the match, including intervals. This may also occur without a warning if serious.

Spectators

- Spectators are not permitted to
 - o Interfere with an umpires positioning
 - o Enter the field of play
 - o Criticise the umpire or their decision
 - o Use offensive, insulting or abusive language or gestures
 - o Encourage foul play
- Umpires will
 - o Hold time and politely ask the spectators to return to their seats.
 - o Hold time and politely inform the spectators that their language or actions are not appropriate
- Umpires and game officials will ask the spectator to leave the viewing area or the complex if their language, behaviour or actions warrant immediate removal.

Umpires providing game management

- When an umpire issues a warning, suspension or send off, they will hold time, address the player, advise the player what they have done incorrectly, use the specific term of game management, set a penalty pass and then restart play.
 - o An example of this is
 - Blow whistle, "Hold time, goalkeeper, this is a warning for retaliation, penalty pass team A." Blow whistle for time back on.
 - Include appropriate hand signal.



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- This process remains the same for other warnings, suspensions and ordering off, where the game management issued must be verbalised to the player.
- Umpires will record instances of warnings, suspensions and ordering off for players, bench officials and spectators at the end of the game. These will be electronically kept by the association and can be provided to teams upon request.

