



2024-2025 Field Directorate Disciplinary Rules

The included penalties are automatic suspensions.

“Automatic” means that:

- 1. If a player receives a penalty that carries an automatic suspension**, the coach is to sit the player even if they have not been notified by the Commissioner of the suspension prior to their next game.
- 2. If a coach receives a penalty that carries an automatic suspension**, the coach is not to continue coaching in any game, even if they have not been notified by the Commissioner of the suspension prior to their next game.

Revised August 2020 (no changes in 2023)

BRITISH COLUMBIA LACROSSE ASSOCIATION

FIELD DIRECTORATE DISCIPLINARY RULES

THE FOLLOWING PENALTIES ARE AUTOMATIC SUSPENSIONS:

1. **EXPULSION PENALTY – DELIBERATE ATTEMPT TO INJURE**

- May include but is not limited to butt-ending, face masking, spearing or kicking.
- To deal with personal fouls (physical) that are excessive and beyond normal play.

1st Offence Minimum: three (3) games

2nd Offence Minimum: six (6) games

3rd Offence Minimum: one (1) year suspension from date of infraction

4th Offence Minimum: player forfeits eligibility in the BCLA Field Directorate

2. **ABUSE BY LANGUAGE OR GESTURE**

- May include but not limited to verbal abuse, racial or sexual statements to a player, coach, any person officially associated with a team, or a fan.
- To deal with behavior and actions that are non-physical

1st Offence Minimum: two (2) to five (5) games

2nd Offence Minimum: five (5) games to one (1) year from date of infraction

3rd Offence Minimum: one (1) year suspension from date of infraction to forfeit of eligibility in the BCLA Field Directorate

3. **BANISHMENT**

- Where a referee ejects player(s), coach(s), or team personnel from the field for that game where they feel that the infraction did not warrant anything more at that time
- Banishments are to be noted on the game sheet.

Any player, coach, or team personnel(s) who accumulates banishments in **one season** will be assessed as follows:

2 Banishments in one season will be assessed one (1) game suspension.

Subsequent Banishments:

3rd Banishment will be assessed a two (2) game suspension

4th Banishment will be assessed a Suspension until a Disciplinary Hearing is held

4. **ABUSE OF OFFICIALS**

- Abuse may be verbal or physical
- An official is defined as a referee, timekeeper, scorekeeper, or any other designated officials.
- To deal with any inappropriate behavior toward any official

1st Offence Minimum: two (2) games to forfeit of eligibility in the BCLA Field Directorate

2nd Offence Minimum: five (5) games to forfeit of eligibility in the BCLA Field

3rd Offence Directorate and a hearing with the BCLA Field Directorate.
Minimum one (1) year from date of infraction to forfeit of eligibility in the BCLA Field Directorate

5. FIGHTING

- Note rule 78.1 of the CLA rulebook

The deliberate striking or attempting to strike an opponent, a non-playing member of the opponent's squad, a coach or anyone controlling the play of the game with the hand, cross, ball or otherwise by a player, substitute, a non-playing member of a squad, a coach or anyone officially connected with a team may be an expulsion foul.

- the third man into an altercation is automatically

expelled from the game

- any person leaving the bench when the benches have been frozen may be expelled from the game

- to deal solely with the act of fighting

- one punch thrown, whether it lands on the intended recipient or not, or anyone else, constitutes a fight.

1st Offence Minimum: two (2) game suspension

2nd Offence Minimum: five (5) game suspension

3rd Offence Minimum: one (1) year suspension from date of infraction

4th Offence Minimum: forfeit of eligibility in the BCLA Field Directorate

6. DEFAULT OF GAMES

Immediate referral to local Field League for hearing.

7. COACH OR MANAGER PULLING TEAM FROM FIELD

Forfeiture of game and immediate referral to local Field League for hearing.

8. FIGHTING OFF PLAYING SURFACE

Please refer to Paragraph #4 if the game is under the jurisdiction of the referee. (i.e. Referee's jurisdiction starts with his/her appearance on the field of play and terminates upon completion of the game as per rule 23.2 of the CLA Rule Book.

If the fight occurs after the jurisdiction of the referee has terminated, the matter will be referred to the local Field League for investigation and hearing.

9. LEAVING PLAYER OR PENALTY BENCH TO ENTER AN ALTERCATION

1st Offence - Five (5) Games

2nd Offence - One (1) Year from the date of offence

3rd Offence - Life (termination of eligibility in the Field Directorate)

10. UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL OR DRUGS

Immediate suspension and an automatic referral for hearing by the local Field League.

11. SPITTING AT OPPONENT/OFFICIAL, HEAD BUTTING, HAIR PULLING

1st Offence - Five (5) Games

2nd Offence - One (1) Year from date of offence

3rd Offence - Life (termination of eligibility in the Field Directorate)

- 12. Any player who accumulates two expulsion penalties in one season will be assessed the following:**
1st Time - Three (3) Game suspension
2nd Time - Hearing by local commission
- 13.** Any team, which plays an ineligible player, will lose any points earned from the games in which the ineligible player played. The Coach will be suspended for two (2) games from the first offence and for the second offence, an automatic referral to the British Columbia Lacrosse Coaches Group for the appropriate disciplinary action.
- 14.** Coaches and/or managers who receive a suspension, will be reported to the BCLA Field Directorate for any suspension under five (5) games that can be imposed by a League Commissioner. Any action by a Coach or a Manager that is the opinion of the local commissioner or BCLA Directorate that warrants further disciplinary action, will be immediately referred to the chairperson of the British Columbia Lacrosse Coaches Group for his/her appropriate action.
- 15.** A suspended player will be removed from all team games, regardless of age division (i.e., cannot play up while suspended) until he/she has served the suspension, this suspension may be served during BCLA sanctioned tournament and league games only. The suspended player cannot participate in exhibition games that occur during the suspended number of games. The suspended player must not appear in the dressing room or on or near the player's bench. He will not participate in any official duties, i.e. - Timekeeping, Coaching, Score Keeping or Officiating (Referee) at any level. The player will be allowed to practice only with his/her team.
- 16.** There is a difference between a game expulsion for a severe incident and for accumulating five personal fouls. A game report must be given if there are to be any further game suspensions. A suspension must be accompanied by a written referee's report. The referee might eject player(s) from the field, banishment, for that game, and not write a game report as he/she did not feel that the infraction warranted anything more. The banishment must be noted on the game sheet.
- 17. It is very important that each League Commissioner has all the facts and has done a thorough investigation prior to handing down a suspension.**
Depending upon the severity of the penalty, additional games may be imposed by the League Chairperson and/or the Field Directorate.

SUMMATION:

These penalties shall be cumulative throughout the entire career of a player in the BCLA Field Directorate and not restricted for one season, with the exception of banishment. Thus, a player, after committing one offence, is deterred from repeating the offence instead of having a clean slate every year.

Any second offence requires the player to appear before the Field Directorate at the first meeting after the offence has taken place. This is to make the player more accountable for his/her actions.