



## **Incident Suspension Policy**

### **1. EJECTION FROM A GAME:**

- a. Includes minor offenses such as ejection from disputes over calls, etc. with no physical violence or verbal threats.
  - i. 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: 1 game suspension
  - ii. 2<sup>nd</sup> offense: 3 game suspension
  - iii. 3<sup>rd</sup> offense: 5 game suspension

### **2. VERBALLY THREATENING AN OFFICIAL, PLAYER OR SPECTATOR**

- a. Includes any verbal comments made in a threatening manner
  - i. 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: 3 game suspension
  - ii. 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: 5 game suspension
  - iii. 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: Indefinite (hearing with a minimum of 1 season)

### **3. PHYSICALLY TOUCHING AN OFFICIAL OR SPECTATOR**

- a. Includes any unauthorized touching of an official or spectator. Also includes spitting on an official or spectator.
  - i. 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Min 1½ year suspension (hearing if requested)
  - ii. 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: 3-year minimum suspension

### **4. FIGHTING WITH ANOTHER PLAYER**

- a. Includes any physical dispute with another player on the city property (field of play, dugout, parking lot, etc).
  - i. 1<sup>st</sup> offense: 3 game suspension
  - ii. 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: 5 game suspension
  - iii. 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: Indefinite (hearing with min 1 year suspension)

### **5. TEAM WARNINGS (team probation)**

- a. Team warnings may be issued by league commissioner for any reoccurring team behavior that acts against the Department's Code of Conduct. This includes but is not limited to inappropriate language, threats, poor sportsmanship, etc.
  - i. 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Team warning that any additional problems will result in elimination from program and forfeiture of any entry fees, etc
  - ii. 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Elimination as a team from the program. No more than three players from the suspended team may appear on any other future roster.

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### **All suspensions include the following:**

- a. Playing, coaching, or spectating in the vicinity of a playing field or gymnasium
- b. Suspensions may carry over from season to season and program to program
- c. Hearings may include statements from officials, players involved, Department Staff & spectators.
- d. All decisions will be rendered by the North Tonawanda Department of Recreation.

### **Suspension Notification**

The suspended player will either be notified directly or the team manager will be notified of the suspension. Details of the suspension, including length, starting date, ending date, etc. will be included on the notification form. Suspension hearings will only occur as indicated in the above policy. For those suspensions where hearings are not an option, the suspension cannot be appealed.

Any player found to be participating, coaching or spectating in the vicinity of the playing field or gymnasium during the suspension will face an additional suspension of no less than double the original suspension length. In addition, the team for which the suspended player is playing, coaching etc. will be subject to forfeiture of any and all games in which the suspended player took part.

### **Department Code of Conduct**

In a continuing effort to provide quality, well maintained, clean and safe programs and facilities for the public, all participants and visitors are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior at all times, show respect to other participants, users, volunteers and staff and take direction from facility/program staff and volunteers. The following examples of behavior could result in removal or suspension:

**Fighting or intent to harm,**

**Swearing, threatening and arguing**

**Vandalism**

**Inappropriate speech (racial comments, vulgarity, harassing comments)**

The reasons listed are not meant to be exhaustive. City staff or program volunteers are responsible for the safe management of facilities and program. If a potential exists for disorder, personal injury, conflict or destruction of property, staff has the authority to remove or suspend any or all participants and visitors. There can also be additional consequences such as criminal charges, arrests, etc.