



**CSSA Referee Assault Policy**  
**Effective Spring, 2013**  
**Addendum to existing USSF Policy 531-9**  
**(Misconduct towards match official)**

- 1) The participant, whether a player, coach, manager, etc., hereafter referred to as the “player,” who allegedly commits Referee Assault (hereafter referred to as “R.A”) will go thru the normal USSF Referee Assault hearing process, per the established USSF Policy 531-9.
- 2) As part of the CSSA Discipline Committee’s R.A. Hearing, deliberations and verdict, the Discipline Committee will:

A) Categorize the R.A. by severity, based upon evidence presented:

Category 3 – Referee was seriously, physically assaulted. Not requiring medical attention doesn’t preclude the assault from being defined as “serious”.

“Serious” may include but is not limited to: the player hitting, punching, kicking, slapping, aggressively pushing, choking, running into, spitting at, or any other moderate or aggressive physical contact with the referee, including the striking of the referee with the ball or with another object.

This Category will incur a minimum five-year suspension, per Policy 531-9.

Category 2 – Referee was contacted in a physical manner deemed as less than serious. This may include, but is not limited to: arm-grabbing, finger-pointing in chest, or other lesser physical contact. This may also include the attempted striking of the referee with the ball or any other object (but failing to make contact).

This Category could incur a minimum six-month suspension, per Policy 531-9.

Category 1 – referee not physically assaulted, but his equipment or personal property was. This may include but is not limited to: player knocking card, flag, pen, whistle, etc. out of referee’s hand; player vandalizing referee equipment or personal property, which may include but is not limited to: attire, equipment bag, or vehicle.

This Category could incur a minimum three-month suspension, per Policy 531-9.

Discipline Committee discretion: The CSSA Discipline Committee reserves the right to categorize and define the severity of the assault as part of the Hearing process, per Policy 531-9.



- B) Suspend the player per Policy 531-9, as is currently done, and impose a performance bond on the player that must be met before the player is eligible to participate upon completion of his suspension. The amount of the bond will be determined by the R.A. category as defined above:
- Category 3 - \$1,000 bond minimum. Committee has discretion to set bond higher based upon seriousness of R.A.
  - Category 2 - \$500 minimum. (At discretion of Committee, can be higher).
  - Category 1 - \$300 minimum. (At discretion of Committee, can be higher, especially for vandalizing personal property, such as an automobile).
- C) Upon completion of the Hearing and the issuance of the official suspension letter to the player, the Discipline Committee also will scan the player's CSSA pass, and send it to all applicable affiliated leagues so that other leagues are fully aware of the player's across-the-board USSF suspension. Card will also be sent to neighboring USSF Region I state associations, CJSA and CSRP.
- D) Team Discipline (only if applicable): During the Committee's deliberations, the Committee will also determine if the player's team was also at fault for the R.A. If the player's team was clearly found to be at fault through negligence or failing to control its player, the Committee has the discretion to:
- Recommend to the CSSA Executive Board that the team be fined, required to post a performance bond, or disciplined by other means, at the discretion of the CSSA Executive Board.
- E) Affected leagues (the league in which the R.A. took place) reserve the right to add to player and team discipline on top of any CSSA discipline imposed. An individual or team has the right to appeal any related league decision to CSSA, via the normal CSSA appeal procedure.