

Protocol for Reporting Alleged Racial Abuse

Preamble:

It is the responsibility of the team mentor to bring any allegation of racial abuse to the notice of the Executive Committee, via the Honorary Secretary, at the earliest possible opportunity.

Step One: The Complaint

As much detail as possible should be furnished to the Executive Committee, including;

- ✓ When & where did the alleged incident(s) take place?
- ✓ What exactly happened?
- ✓ Who said/did what to whom?
- ✓ What are the relationships/roles of the parties involved in the incident?
- ✓ Were there any witnesses to the alleged incident?
- ✓ How close were witnesses to the incident & did they have an unobstructed view?
- ✓ Was the incident reported to the referee?
- ✓ Was the incident reported to the mentor in charge of the other team?
- ✓ Was the incident reported to the Gardai?
- ✓ What are the names/descriptions of those involved in the incident?
- ✓ Are there any other relevant factors to the complaint? E.g. past history between the parties etc.

Step Two: The Investigation

- ✓ It is the responsibility of the Executive Committee, once it has received a complaint, to investigate the matter thoroughly & expediently.
- ✓ As per standard procedure, any member of the Executive Committee whose school is involved in the allegation shall not take part in any discussion or deliberations on the matters at hand.
- ✓ A preliminary discussion of the complaint shall take place, with any issues arising or further areas to be addressed highlighted.
- ✓ If any further information is required from the complainant, a request will be forwarded.
- ✓ All parties involved in the allegation (the opposing player(s), the relevant team mentor, the referee etc.) will be requested to submit, either in person or in writing, a response to the allegation, which will be considered by the Committee.
- ✓ In the event of a complaint against a child under 18, the parents/guardians should be informed & advised of the process.

Step Three: The Decision & Notification

- ✓ The Executive Committee shall hear the case of all parties involved & decide if a rule or regulation has been infringed.
- ✓ The Executive Committee shall then inform all parties involved in writing of any decision taken by the Executive Committee, detailing the reasons for the sanction imposed (if any).
- ✓ Any decision taken by the Executive Committee may be appealed, as per Rules of the Association.